FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 APRIL 1984

Lebanon

The IDF closed all crossing points between Israel and Lebanon on both the Al-Awwali River line and the international border in order to tighten security arrangements at the crossing points, Jerusalem radio reported. The move follows the 2 April attack in Jerusalem carried out by "terrorists" who entered Israel from Lebanon, the radio said, and "it is known" that two of the men were residents of Sidon. The DFLP, which claimed responsibility for the operation, announced in Damascus that its forces in Lebanon captured an IDF sergeant whose release will be conditional on the release of the men captured in the Jerusalem attack and various other prisoners held by Israel, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The Israeli soldier, a member of Israel's Druze community, has been missing for a year, the IDF spokesman disclosed in a statement cited by Jerusalem radio.

Reacting to recent attacks on the IDF in southern Lebanon, Defense Minister Moshe Arens warned Syria in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio that Israel will not accept a war of attrition. The Syrians are able to stop attacks on the IDF originating from the area under their control, Arens noted, and "if they attempt such a war, they must be ready for any reaction by us."

Meanwhile, Beirut radio reported that seven Israeli soldiers were wounded in an ambush near An-Nabatiyah. In the wake of other recent attacks against the IDF, Israeli troops stormed and searched houses in Sidon and moved more than 240 residents of Jibshit to the Ansar detention camp, the radio said.

In another development concerning the south, Antoine Lahad, a Maronite Christian with the rank of general in the Lebanese Army reserves, will take over as commander of the 2,000-strong southern Lebanese army sponsored by Israel, Jerusalem radio reported.

Beirut radio reported that clashes continued on all combat axes in the capital on 3-4 April. The Phalangist Voice of Lebanon radio blamed the cease-fire violations on the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and its allies, but the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio accused the Phalangists and the Lebanese Army of attempting an advance in central Beirut which was "repulsed" by nationalist forces.

Lebanese newspapers cited by Beirut radio announced that President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad have agreed to hold another summit in the near future to discuss matters which still impede implementation of the Lausanne conference resolutions. President al-Jumayyil discussed Soviet policy toward Lebanon with Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, the radio noted. "Informed political sources" cited by the Kuwaiti paper *AS-SIYASAH* indicated that Al-Jumayyil may ask the Soviet Union to supply Lebanon with arms in view of U.S. reluctance to ship further weapons following the capture of U.S.-made tanks and missiles by the PSP, which handed some of them over to Soviet experts.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, in a statement in the YAR reported by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, described the 2 April operation in Jerusalem as "a message from the Palestinian people, who will not forget the Sabra and Shatila massacre."

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqis have no hope of recapturing Majnun Island, having flooded their only access point in the southern part of the island, President 'Ali Khamene'i stated in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio.

Iraqi antiaircraft batteries shot down one of the Iranian Phantoms that raided 'Ali al-Gharbi on 30 March, a military communique carried by Baghdad radio reported. An Indian ship in the Shatt al-'Arab was set on fire by Iranian shelling, the communique added.

FBIS
DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS
Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 066 4 April 1984

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

- DFLP Captures Israeli Soldier in S. Lebanon *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* .... A 1
- Coverage on 2 April Jerusalem Attack *[AFP]* .... A 1
  - AS-SAFIR Quotes DLFP .... A 1
  - ‘Arafat Comment .... A 1
- ‘Arafat Addresses Palestinian Conference in San‘a‘ *[San‘a‘]* .... A 1
- Palestinian, PDRY Talks Resume in Aden *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* .... A 2
  - Abu Jihad Addresses Palestinians *[Aden]* .... A 2
- PLO Representative, USSR Ambassador in Algiers Meet *[Algiers VOP]* .... A 3
- UAE Daily Interviews Fatah's An-Natshah *[WAKH]* .... A 3
- PFLP's Hilal Interviewed on Damascus, Aden Meetings *[KUNA]* .... A 3
- Palestinian Groups Condemn ‘Arafat's Trend *[Damascus]* .... A 4
- PLO Official Attacks ‘Arafat, Praises Syria *[Damascus]* .... A 4
- UAE Paper Reports on Interview With DFLP Leader *[AL-KHALIJ 2 Apr]* .... A 5
- As-Sa‘iqah Condemns ‘Arafat-Mubarak Meeting *[Damascus]* .... A 6
- Aden VOP Reiterates Revolution's Military Option .... A 6
- AS-SIYASAH on ‘Crisis’ in Libya-Syria Relations *[3 Apr]* .... A 6
- Voice of PLO Reports 3 Apr Resistance Operations .... A 6
  - West Bank Attack .... A 6
  - An-Nabatiyah Attack .... A 6
- Briefs: IDB Loan to Tunisia .... A 7
  - IDB Loan to Bangladesh

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

- AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ Praises Jerusalem Operation .... C 1

QATAR

- Foreign Minister Meets With Britain's Luce .... C 1
- AL-‘ARAB Comments on Jerusalem Operation *[WAKH]* .... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

- Ministry Issues Budget Statement For New Fiscal Year .... C 1
- Prince Al-Faysal Meets With ICO's Chatti .... C 2
- Malaysian Ruler Arrives in Medina for Visit .... C 2
- Crown Prince Receives Ambassadors, Messages .... C 2
- USSR ‘Relaxation’ Over Lebanon Issue Noted .... C 2

PDRY

- Fatah's Khalil al-Wazir Makes Statement, Departs .... C 2
- DPRK Delegation Departs After Visit, Talks .... C 3

YAR

- PDRY Official Brings Message, Departs San‘a‘ .... C 3

UAE

- ICO Sends Invitation for Emergency Meeting ..... C 3
- PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives in Abu Dhabi *[QNA]* ..... C 3

EGYPT

- Ghali Eulogizes Late Guinean President Toure ..... D 1
- AL-AHRAM Views Egyptian-Libyan Relations *[29 Mar]* ..... D 1
- Beirut: Abba Eban Arrives for 2-Day Visit ..... D 2
- Sudanese Foreign Minister Arrives in Cairo ..... D 2
- New Envoy to Jordan Leaves Cairo for Amman ..... D 2
- Opposition Doubts Libyan Role in Omdurman Raid *[ASH-SHA'B 27 Mar]* ..... D 2
- Correspondent Analyzes Egyptian-Soviet Relations *[AS-SIYASAH 2 Apr]* ..... D 3
- MAY Criticizes U.S. Aid for Israel *[1 Apr]* ..... D 3
- Mubarak Cables Losonczi on Independence Day ..... D 4

IRAQ

- Armed Forces Communique No 1,424 - 3 April ..... E 1
- President Receives King Husayn's Envoy, Message ..... E 1
- Minutes of Cooperation Signed With New Zealand ..... E 1
- PRC Friendship Delegation Arrives for Visit ..... E 1
- Daily Criticizes Renewed British-Iranian Cooperation ..... E 2
- INA: Oil Sources Say Iranian Oil Exports Declining ..... E 2

JORDAN

- Reportage on Visit of Spanish Foreign Minister ..... F 1
    - Arrives in Amman ..... F 1
    - Calls Husayn's Statements 'Wise' *[AR-RA'Y 4 Apr]* ..... F 1
- Dailies on U.S. Reaction to Jerusalem Operation ..... F 1
- Jerusalem Operation Not Isolated Incident ..... F 2

LEBANON

- Further on Visit of USSR Official Brutents ..... G 1
    - Meets Al-Jumayyil, Answers Questions ..... G 1
    - Brutents News Conference 3 Apr *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 1
    - PSP Leaders Host Luncheon *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 1
    - Visits North, Meets Karami ..... G 2
    - Meets Franjiyah 4 Apr ..... G 2
- Kuwait AS-SIYASAH: USSR Arms May Be Purchased *[3 Apr]* ..... G 2
- More Reportage on Visit of UN Official Urquhart ..... G 3
    - Meets Al-Wazzan ..... G 3
    - Meets Al-Jumayyil, Statement ..... G 3
- Summit With Syrians To Be Held in 'Near Future' ..... G 3
- Al-Jumayyil Apprises Cabinet of Conference Results *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
- Al-Jumayyil Meets MEA Chairman Salam 3 April ..... G 4
- Speaker Asks Government To Inform Chamber on Security *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
- Lebanese Front Source Sees Coming 'Immobility' *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 4
- Franjiyah News Conference on U.S. Policy, Events ..... G 5
- Birri on Forces Disengagement, South *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 7
- U.S. Embassy Guards Fire at Floating Objects ..... G 7
    - RFL: Objects Exercise Targets ..... G 7
- ISF Reportedly Withdraws From Al-Barbir Positions ..... G 8
    - Security Committee Discusses Situation ..... G 8
    - PSP, Amal Replace ISF *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 8
    - Sources Deny ISF Withdrawal ..... G 8
- Continuing Reportage on Security Developments ..... G 8

PSP On Clashes 3 April *[Voice of the Mountain]* G 8
Residential Quarters, Army Shelled G 8
'Guarded Calm' Following Clashes G 8
'Disciples of Prophet' Warn Amal Movement *[Radio Free Lebanon]* G 8
Minister Raises Issue of Israeli Excavations G 9
'Tension' in South; Tyre General Strike Planned G 9
Seven Israeli Soldiers Wounded in Attack G 9
Resistance Fighters Attack Israeli Vehicle G 9
Long Time Resident Aliens To Get Citizenship *[Kuwait AL-QABAS 2 Apr]* G 9

SYRIA

Continued Reportage on Spanish Foreign Minister's Visit H 1
Meets Khaddam H 1
Talks With Assembly Speaker H 1
Meets PNC Speaker H 1
Meets With Al-Asad, Ash-Shar' H 1
Departure Statement H 1
PDRY Foreign Minister Meets With Officials H 1
Khaddam Sees Ad-Dali, UN's Urquhart H 1
Ash-Shar' Receives Ad-Dali H 2
Ad-Dali Departs H 2
Al-Ahmar Addresses Iraqi Community Party Rally H 2
AL-HADAF:Follow Up Committee on Lebanon Set Up *[31 Mar]* H 2
Dailies on Israeli 'Threats,' U.S. Fleet Movement H 2
Youth Organizations Condemn Jordanian Regime H 3
Israel Begins Digging Mediterranean-Dead Sea Canal H 4

ISRAEL

Shamir on Terrorist Attack, Relations With Egypt I 1
Arens Warns Syria Against 'War of Attrition' I 1
'All Four' Border Crossings With Lebanon Closed I 1
Moda'i Suggests Isolation of Southern Lebanon I 2
Arab Media Reaction to Jerusalem 'Crime' Criticized I 2
Syrian Support for Terrorist Activities Stressed I 2
HATZOFE Editorial *[3 Apr]* I 2
YEDI'OT AHARONOT Editorial I 3
Jerusalem Arabic on Syrian Internal Dispute I 3
Knesset Committee on Election Provisions I 3
Further on Deliberations I 3
Former MK Flatto-Sharon To Run for Knesset I 3
President Herzog Returns From UK Visit I 4
POST Criticizes Role of U.S. Consulate *[1 Apr]* I 4
MA'ARIV on U.S. Fears Over Embassy Transfer *[2 Apr]* I 4
High Court Upholds Ban on Arabic Paper *[THE JERUSALEM POST 4 Apr]* I 6
Breakdown in Decline of Fiscal 1983 Revenues I 6
New Commander Appointed for Southern Lebanese Army I 6
Receives Command 4 April I 6
IDF Confirms Druze Soldier Missing I 6
Al-Wazzan Statements Contain 'Fallacies, Deceptions' I 6
Full Allocation To Be Drawn From Yarmuk River *[THE JERUSALEM POST 4 Apr]* I 7
Increase in Arson Cases in Judaea, Samaria I 7
Soviet Jewish Emigration
Dollar Reserves Down
March Unemployment

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Upper Volta's Sankara Arrives on Official Visit .... Q 1
    Meets With Bendjedid .... Q 1
    Give Views on Policies .... Q 1
    Makes Departure Statement .... Q 2
    Joint Communique .... Q 2
Trade, Cooperation With Great Britain Developed *[EL MOUDJAHID 26 Mar]* .... Q 2
CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Holds Talks .... Q 2

LIBYA

Armed Forces Chief, SFRY's Mamula Tour Sabha .... Q 3
Omdurman Raid Accusations Mirror 1983 'Provocation' *[AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR 26 Mar]* .... Q 3

MAURITANIA

Sankara Scheduled To Make Friendly, Working Visit .... Q 4

SUDAN

Vice President Lagu Interviewed on Rebels in South *[AL-QABAS 31 Mar]* .... Q 4
Delegation Explains Southern Issues, Islamic Law .... Q 4
Upper Nile Governor on Situation in Province .... Q 5

TUNISIA

Libyan-Backed Oppositionist Sentenced in Tunis *[Paris LE MONDE 27 Mar]* .... Q 5

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Joint Communique on Mengistu's USSR Visit Reported .... R 1
Bulgarian Defense Minister Arrives, Meets Tesfaye .... R 3
Government Takes Journalists on Tour of Eritrea .... R 3
ELF-RC Head: 80 Percent of Eritrea Liberated *[WAKH]* .... R 4

SOMALIA

Reportage on DPRK Vice Premier Chong's 3-Day Visit .... R 4
    Arrives 2 April .... R 4
    Kulmie Hosts Dinner .... R 4
First Vice President Samantar Returns From Egypt .... R 4
Mengistu, Al-Qadhdhafi Implement USSR 'War Strategy' .... R 5
Mogadishu Radio To Start Broadcasting in Arabic .... R 5
DFSS Reportedly Attacks Government Forces 31 Mar *[Radio Halgan]* .... R 5

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Ndjamena Denies Bardai Claims on BET Fighting .... S 1

GABON

French Prime Minister Visits Uranium Mines .... S 1

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Neighbors Denounced For 'Assisting Dissidents' .... T 1
GDR Road Construction Equipment To Be Imported .... T 1
Barter Prospects With Upper Volta To Be Explored .... T 1

GUINEA

New Regime Effects Return to Normalcy After Coup .... T 1
    CMRN Communiques 3, 4 Issued .... T 1
    Former Detainees Interviewed .... T 1
    Exiles 'Relieved' *[AFP]* .... T 2
    Continuous Broadcasting Planned .... T 2
    'Banditry' Will Be Punished .... T 2
    CMRN Members Announced .... T 2
    Exile Interviewed *[Paris]* .... T 2
    Message Sent to World Leaders .... T 3
    Resumption of Work Ordered .... T 3
    CMNR Goals Announced .... T 3
    Normalcy Restored *[AFP]* .... T 4
    Regional Officials Appointed .... T 4

IVORY COAST

FRATERNITE MATIN on 'Alarming' State of Economy *[Aboubacar, 29 Mar]* .... T 4

MALI

Congolese Labor Party Delegation Visits .... T 5

NIGER

Dos Santos Stops Over En Route to Yugoslavia .... T 6
Two Financial Aid Agreements Signed With France .... T 6

NIGERIA

Talks To Be Held With USSR on Southern Africa .... T 6
Buhari Meets With Special Envoy of Cameroon's Biya .... T 6
FCTA Dissolved; FCDA Created for Abuja Project .... T 6
Maitatsine Follower Given 9-Month Prison Term .... T 7
Idiagbon: FMG To Complete Projects of Old Regime .... T 7
Air Staff Chief on Current Air Force Maneuvers .... T 7
FMG Working on More Dynamic Agricultural Plan .... T 7

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

PCP's Cunhal Begins Talks With Dos Santos .... U 1
150 Soviet Workers Provide Medical Aid .... U 1
New Assistent Commissioner Named in Namibe .... U 1

LESOTHO

Prime Minister Declares National Food Emergency .... U 1
Sixishe Says No ANC Bases Inside Country *[Umtata Capital Radio]* .... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo Ceremony To Hail Machel Role in Accord .... U 2
  Cuamba Rally Praises Accord .... U 2
Defense Officials Laud Portuguese Military Project .... U 2
Satellite Telecommunications Pact Signed With France .... U 3
OJM Signs Agreement With PRC Youth League .... U 3

NAMIBIA

DTA Leaders Hail Role of Multiparty Conference .... U 3
  Riruaka Address in Windhoek *[DIE REPUBLIKEIN 28 Mar]* .... U 3
  Mudge Speech Assails SWAPO *[DIE REPUBLIKEIN 28 Mar]* .... U 4
Security Forces Report Killing Nine Terrorists *[Johannesburg]* .... U 5
Ja Toivo, Nujoma 'Collective Leadership' Portrayed *[Lusaka Voice of Namibia]* .... U 5
Interview With SWAPO UN Observer Gurirab *[Lusaka Voice of Namibia]* .... U 5

SOUTH AFRICA

Le Grange: ANC 'No Doubt' Behind Durban Bombing .... U 7
  Opposition Parties Score Bombing .... U 7
  Police Studying Detonation *[Umtata Capital Radio]* .... U 7
  Commentary Says Terrorism 'Expected' .... U 8
Foreign Minister Holds Talks With Envoy to UK .... U 8
KwaZulu Chief Buthelezi Opens New Assembly Building .... U 8
RSA, U.S. Diplomacy 'Forced' Angola's New Initiatives *[DIE TRANSVALER 21 Mar]* .... U 8
Koeberg Nuclear Plant Begins Supplying Power .... U 9
MPLA, UNITA Settlement of Differences Urged .... U 9
Split Develops in Ranks of Afrikaner Broederbond *[THE CITIZEN 26 Mar]* .... U 9

SWAZILAND

Arms Cache Discovered at Border Near Lomahasha *[THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND 3 Apr]* .... U 10

ZAMBIA

Entry of Refugees, Shooting Incident Reported .... U 10
Youth Minister Extols Virtues of 'Cuban Experience' .... U 10

ZIMBABWE

Ja Toivo Arrives in Harare, Will Meet With Mugabe .... U 11
Freight Train Derailed on Harare-Bulawayo Line .... U 11
Msipa Reports Talks Held on Limpopo River Dam *[Maputo]* .... U 11
Trial Seen Proving Radio Truth 'Frightens Leadership' *[Radio Truth]* .... U 11

DFLP Captures Israeli Soldier in S. Lebanon

JN031248 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], today stated that the Front's forces had managed to capture a master sergeant in the Israeli Army operating in occupied southern Lebanon and that the Front will contact the International Red Cross to adopt the usual measures in treating the prisoners of war.

In return, the DFLP demands that the prisoners of yesterday's operation in Jerusalem be treated as prisoners of war. Otherwise, the DFLP will be forced to treat the Israeli prisoner in the same manner that its prisoners are treated.

The Israeli POW is Samir As'ad, a Druze born in Beit Jann in upper Galilee. He entered military service in mid-November 1979. Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh has given the POW's military number and the serial number of his rifle.

In return for the release of this POW, the DFLP demands the following:

1. The release of all the Palestinian detainees whom Israel failed to release contrary to the POW agreement concluded at the end of last year.

2. The release of of Udi Adiv, a progressive Jewish struggler who opposes Zionism. He was sentenced to 18-years imprisonment for his solidarity with the Palestinian revolution and the DFLP.

3. The release of the prisoners who carried out the Jerusalem operation yesterday, and the return of the dead commando.

4. The release of another commando who carried out an operation in Jerusalem last February.

5. The release of 'Umar al-Qasim, DFLP Central Committee member, who has been detained in Israeli prisons for 16 years.

6. The release of a number of Palestinian POW's from the various resistance factions who are serving long terms of imprisonment. A list of their names will be presented to the International Red Cross.

Coverage on 2 April Jerusalem Attack

AS-SAFIR Quotes DLFP

NC031533 Paris AFP in English 1516 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Damascus, April 3 (AFP) — The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) was supported by a number of other groups during a suicide attack in Jerusalem yesterday in which almost 50 people were wounded, a DFLP leader said here today.

Quoted in Lebanese daily *AS-SAFIR*, the leader said the attack was originally planned to occur before a February 28 attack on a Jerusalem store in which, according to Israeli reports, 21 people were wounded.

It had been postponed for technical reasons, and "to let us get our breath back after the latest events on the Palestinian scene, because the essential field of our activities is inside occupied Israel" he added.

The DFLP, a component of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) yesterday claimed the suicide shooting at Jerusalem's busiest intersection, Jaffa and King George streets in the Jewish section of the city, in which 48 people were wounded.

At least one of the attackers was killed, and four were wounded in the shooting, unprecedented in Jerusalem in its scale and tactics.

A DFLP leader here said the commando had been led by a 24-year-old Palestinian, Muhammad Salih Shaykh Qasim, also known as Abu Rabi', who came from the village of Ajzam in the Haifa region.

'Arafat Comment

NC031835 Paris AFP in English 1829 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] San'a', April 3 (Afp) — Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today described yesterday's gun attack in central Jerusalem as a reminder that the Palestinian people would never forget the September 1982 massacres in Sabra and Shatila.

Hundreds of people, including women and children, died in the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila in west Beirut when they were attacked by Christian militiamen soon after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in September, 1982.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) of Nayif Hawatimah yesterday in Damascus claimed the Jerusalem attack.

Mr 'Arafat is in North Yemen for a conference of Palestinian writers and journalists and will meet later today with North Yemeni President 'Ali Abdallah Salih.

'Arafat Addresses Palestinian Conference in San'a'

GF040920 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The fourth conference of the association of Palestinian writers and journalists, which our country is hosting, opened yesterday at 1900 with a gala celebration attended by brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman; brother members of the consultative council and the Council of Ministers, members of the permanent committee; members of the diplomatic corps accredited in San'a'; Yemeni intellectuals and writers; news agencies correspondents, and correspondents for Arab and foreign newspapers.

At the conclusion of the opening celebration, brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, delivered a speech in which he greeted those present. He said: In the name of the martyrs, in the name of all the strugglers of the children of our Palestinian people, I greet you and greet your conference, a conference of writers who honorably fight alongside their brothers in the struggle to defend the Palestinian revolution.

In your name and in the name of all the martyrs and the strugglers in the Palestinian revolution, I greet my Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, who told me that he welcomes you Palestinian writers and journalists. In the name of the Palestinian writers and journalists, I convey my thanks to the Yemeni people. Thanks for this warm hosting of Palestinian writers who fight using their pens, opinions, and doctrine in defense of the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nation.

Brother 'Arafat reviewed in his speech the circumstances during which this conference is being convened. He asserted that the current circumstances raise the importance of the role of the press and Palestinian writers in telling the facts. [Words indistinct] Brother Yasir 'Arafat said that the most wonderful thing in the Palestinian revolution is that any fighter either through his pen, views, or his gun can express his opinion which will be duly noted and not subjected to discussion. He went on to say: We will continue to proceed this way. Despite the fact that it often leads to controversy, it is the democratic way and even forces our enemies to assess it in a special way. Your conference is being held in the wake of fateful challenges which not only deal with the Palestinian revolution but with the Arab nation. We are undergoing the stage which will decide whether we continue to exist or not.

Brother 'Arafat referred to the hard struggling positions experienced by the Palestinian revolution during the war in Lebanon in the 1970's, during the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, and the siege of the Palestinian revolution forces and the Lebanese national resistance. He lauded the heroic steadfastness of the fighters of the Palestinian revolution and their brothers in the Lebanese National Movement in the longest Arab-Israeli confrontation. This steadfastness foiled the plans of the enemies and accentuated the continuation of the Palestinian revolution and the continuation of its struggle.

Brother Yasir 'Arafat said: The Palestinian forces departed Beirut and were dispersed throughout a number of Arab countries. This departure was not a defeat, but it was a departure to new struggling positions which provide the Palestinian fighters with new elements from Yemen, from Algiers, and from every Arab country in which they are located. Brother 'Arafat called for exerting efforts to restore Egypt to the Arab nation and to extricate it from the Camp David plot, owing to the political leverage which Egypt has in the Arab arena, in order to confront the imperialist plots designed to disintegrate and dismember the Arab nation.

He then pointed out that Palestinian popular conferences will help in continuing Palestinian legitimacy represented by the Palestine National Council, and in its upcoming meeting, so that the world will be sure that independent decisionmaking will remain in the hands of the Palestinian revolution and that no side will be able to influence or direct it.

He urged the Palestinian writers and journalists to hold open discussions and objective dialogues on the stages which have been are being experienced by the Palestinian revolution to assess these stages and consequently take part in developing a new strategy that ensures the continuation of the legitmacy and the democratic nature of the PLO of which the Palestinian revolution is proud. Brother 'Arafat pointed out the plot designed against the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nation is tremendous. But the fate of the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nation is to confront such plots. He added: We know the extent of these plots, so we will use our bodies as bridges for all our children and for all the generations to come so that they can cross over to victory and regain their Arab rights.

The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee referred to the Iraqi-Iranian war, indicating that Iraq's response, announced during the siege of Beirut, and its initiative to withdraw from all Iranian territories and end the fighting heralded a great victory to us, because the ending of this war would have led to tremendous support for us in our battles. We were optimistic in those days of victory, because ending this war during those circumstances would have meant that we could have liberated Jerusalem within days. But this war has continued. We have to understand the dimensions of its continuation which consumes the capabilities of the Arab and the Islamic nations.

Concluding his speech, Brother Yasir 'Arafat expressed his good wishes and hope that the Palestinian writers and journalists conference will reinforce the unity of Palestinian struggle and participate in protecting the Palestinian revolution and its people, represented by the PLO, the sole and the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Palestinian, PDRY Talks Resume in Aden

JN031831 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] A round of Palestinian-Yemeni talks was held in Aden yesterday. It was attended on the Palestinian side by brothers Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid], Fakhr Abu Nizar, and 'Abbas Zaki. On the Yemeni side, the talks were attended by Brothers 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau; Mahmud (?Injasi), member of the YSP Central Committee; and 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, head of the Arab homeland department. Full openness and mutual confidence prevailed at the meeting, during which all developments in the Palestinian arena and attempts to strike at the Palestinian revolution were discussed.

Abu Jihad Addresses Palestinians

GF011930 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] A speech rally was held today at the Al-Yarmuk camp for Palestinian fighters for Land Day. At the rally, Brother Abu Jihad [Khalid al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the

Palestinian forces, currently visiting our country leading a Fatah delegation, gave a speech in which he reviewed the Palestinian people's national struggle since the beginning of the armed struggle on 1 January 1965. He also touched upon various imperialist and Zionist plots against the Palestinian revolution. He affirmed that all annihilatory attempts have been unsuccessful in hindering the Palestinian people from continuing their armed struggle against the Zionist enemy in the occupied Palestinian and Arab lands. He also affirmed that the Palestinian revolution will continue until the Palestinians achieve victory in establishing their independent state on their national soil under the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative.

Also, Brother Abu al-Hawl, Fatah Central Committee member and official in charge of Fatah's security, and 'Abbas Zaki, Fatah Revolutionary Council member and PLO representative in Aden, gave speeches in which they praised the heroic steadfastness of the Palestinian masses in the occupied territories for holding firm to their land and their confrontation of the Zionist occupation and settlement policy.

The speech rally was attended by individuals of Palestinian forces in the camp and a crowd of Palestinians in Aden.

This afternoon, the Fatah Central Committee delegation, led by brother Abu Jihad, visited the camp, where it inspected the fighters' conditions and met with the camp officers and cadres.

PLO Representative, USSR Ambassador in Algiers Meet

LD022039 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Abu al-'Izz, the PLO representative in Algiers, has met with the Soviet ambassador. Talks focused on the latest Palestinian issue developments. Brother Abu al-'Izz informed the Soviet ambassador of the situation prevalent in the occupied territories and in the Palestinian arena. For his part, the Soviet ambassador reaffirmed the principled Soviet stand with regard to the Palestinian people and their sole legitimate representative, the PLO, and the importance of the organization and the Palestinian people's unity.

UAE Daily Interviews Fatah's An-Natshah

GF021059 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0633 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 Apr (WAKH) — Mr Rafiq an-Natshah, Fatah Central Committee member and PLO representative in Saudi Arabia, has stressed that Fatah movement adheres to legitimacy and cannot dismember PLO institutions.

In a statement published by the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* in Abu Dhabi today, Mr an-Natshah said that Fatah does not insist on fragmenting the PLO leadership or on changing it but insists this should take place through legitimacy and through the Palestine National Council.

The Palestinian official stressed that the Palestinian fedayeen action will follow a new method in the upcoming stage based on the struggle of the masses since the PLO has lost its bases and faces difficulties in mobilizing its forces.

He said that supporting the Arab Palestinian people in the occupied territories is an Arab duty for which Arab governments should bear the responsibility. He said a dialogue is currently taking place in Aden among a number of Palestinian factions with the aim of preparing a new program of Palestinian action represented by adhering to the legitimate institutions their resolutions.

He said that the Jordanian-Palestinian relations have reached advanced positive stages but have not yet reached the stage of political cooperation due to the lack of a cooperative theme, since the Arab Fes summit plan which is supported by Jordan and the PLO requires an Arab ability to implement it which does not now exist.

Mr an-Natshah warned that the Zionist enemy is preparing to carry out one of two military operations: either hitting the Arab Egyptian Army and other Egyptian forces, or invading Jordan.

He said that Israel's policy is fundamentally based on aggression and that it does not tolerate the growth of any Arab power, and the Egyptian Army has been developing itself since the last war it fought in 1973. He added that Israel does not allow the existence of any other power that may surpass it in the region and that it plans and chooses the right time for dealing its blow.

The Fatah representative in Saudi Arabia affirmed that the United States does not want to achieve peace in the Middle East region and that its policy is based on not achieving a true peace because such peace means Israel's end. It does not want to have a real war because that too would mean Israel's end. Thus, the United States seeks to preoccupy the Arabs by talking about peace in the region. If the U.S. were serious, it could have achieved peace by now. But it is merely dodging the issue and talking about peace without any real desire to achieve it so as to protect the existence of the Zionist entity and to keep the region tense and in turmoil.

PFLP's Hilal Interviewed on Damascus, Aden Meetings

LD021711 Kuwait KUNA in English 1608 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, April 2 (KUNA) — Representatives of a number of Palestinian commando movements started contacts here Monday for reaching a joint approach for healing differences within Palestinian ranks.

Member of the Joint Command of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), Jamil Hilal, told KUNA that the Aden initiative made in collaboration with the Palestinian Liberation Front (PLF) and the Palestinian Communist Party (PCP) stipulated a number of internal reforms in the PLO ranks.

The current contacts with the Sa'iqa Group, the PFLP General Command and the opposition movement within the mainstream commando movement, Fatah, will later expand to include a delegation from the Fatah Central Committee headed by Salah Khalaf, scheduled to be held in the near future in Aden.

The initiative stipulated, among other things, giving additional jurisdiction to the PLO Central Council, currently considered a consultative body which serves as a link between the Palestine National Council (PNC) and the Executive Committee so as to function as an observer of the Executive Committee's endeavor.

The proposals called for the establishment of group leadership and for adopting a clear stance regarding relations with Jordan and Egypt.

They further demanded rejection of the Camp David accords, the U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Mideast peace initiative and outlining the organization's relations with Arab and international parties and condemning the (PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's) Cairo visit, particularly in a statement by the Fatah Central Committee.

Hilal said that in light of these contacts a date will be fixed for the convening of the PNC, parliament in exile, but in the event no unanimous agreement was reached, all will be invited to attend the PNC session where each party would table its viewpoint.

The PNC decisions would be binding in any case, the spokesman underlined, noting, "We can no longer paralyze all administrative bodies of the PLO particularly udner current serious circumstances."

He said that the Fatah breakaways can form a separate movement from Fatah.

Hilal highlighted that a joint delegation from the signatories on the Aden meetings will soon launch a tour of a number of Arab socialist countries to explain initiative's goals.

Palestinian Groups Condemn 'Arafat's Trend

JN030741 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus —Palestinian revolution groups have condemned 'Arafat's meetings with the Egyptian regime and his wicked efforts to fall in the mud of the Camp David swamp.

The PFLP General Command said it is not surprised by the 'Arafat-Mubarak meeting in Conakry, and emphasized that this meeting is solid proof of 'Arafat's determination to pursue his treacherous course. This came in a statement by the PFLP-General Command official spokesman who was commenting on this meeting. The spokesman said this meeting did not surprise those who were and are still adhering to their firm stand on 'Arafat and his course. He added: We have always been fully convinced that through all his steps and political stands, 'Arafat was very concerned about not quitting the camp to which he is affiliated or the role designed for him by the imperialist and Zionist circles —a role to liquidate the Palestinian revolution. The spokesman further explained that this meeting emphasizes 'Arafat's capitulatory trend on the Camp David path, and is an obvious reply to those who are wagering on 'Arafat's retreat from his trend and stands which seek to relinquish the people and the cause.

A spokesman for the joint leadership of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the PFLP denounced 'Arafat's meeting with Mubarak and described it as reflecting the rightist trend's pursuance of the deviationist and defeatist policy constituting a diversion from the Palestinian revolution's nationalist trend embodied in its political program and PNC decisions. The spokesman called upon all Palestinian nationalists groups, forces, and figures to encircle and foil this course and to strike at all conspiracies and plots which aim at liquidating our people's cause; especially the Camp David accords and the Reagan plan.

The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front affirmed all Palestinian groups' adherence to the national charter and the PNC decisions which emphasize the continuation of armed struggle until the Palestinian people's national objectives are achieved.

In a mass rally held in the Nahr al-Barid camp on the occasion of the Land Day, the Front stressed the need to confront the deviationist trend of 'Arafat and his gang to preserve the unity of the PLO and the Palestine question through the unity of all forces and groups within one national and broad front. It also stressed the importance of the strategic relations between the steadfast Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian triangle, supported by Arab and world liberation forces on the principle that this alliance is the path of victory and one then can foil all imperialist and Zionist plots.

PLO Official Attacks 'Arafat, Praises Syria

JN021727 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Khalid 'Abd al-Majid, member of the PLO Central Council and of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front's Political Bureau, has asserted the need for all Palestinian groups to adhere to the national charter and the PNC resolutions, which stress the need to continue the armed struggle until the Palestinian people's national objectives are achieved.

During a large popular rally at the Nahr al-Barid Camp on the occasion of Land Day, 'Abd al-Majid called for confronting 'Arafat's deviationist trend and his clique by unifying all the Palestinian forces and groups in a broad national front to preserve the PLO's unity and the Palestinian national cause. He also stressed the importance of strategic relations between the Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian steadfastness triangle, supported by the Arab and international liberation front, because this alliance will pave the way for achieving victory and defeating all the imperialist-Zionist conspiracies.

UAE Paper Reports on Interview With DFLP Leader

GF031436 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 2 Apr 84 p 14

[Interview with Nayif Hawatimah, DFLP secretary general, by the Palestinian magazine *AL-HURRIYAH*—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [*AL-HURRIYAH*] How can 'Arafat's capitulatory step be confronted at a time when many slogans have been submitted recently as working plans for this confrontation, such as a broad national alliance, national salvation front, alternative leadership, etc.?

[Hawatimah] Right from the beginning, we affirmed that to confront 'Arafat's visit to Cairo and the possible capitulatory results, efforts should be concentrated on forming the widest national coalition to oppose the capitulatory policy through joint action to contain the results of this visit and to prevent the success of this method from dragging the PLO into the swamp of Camp David.

In this framework we should be very keen to preserve the unity of the PLO on the basis of its national line represented in its temporary program and the resolutions of the PNC in Algiers. We believe that the calls for establishing a new Palestinian leadership to replace the PLO under the slogans of the revolutionary legitimacy do not serve the serious struggle to defeat the harmful effects of the capitulatory policy and save the PLO and its legitimate institutions.

'Arafat's visit should not be exploited to justify another leadership, which will lead to division and will serve the capitulation policy and further disguise it as Palestinian legitimacy.

What is required is to concentrate and group the broadest forces and national Palestinian figures on the basis of confronting this policy and to make real efforts to provide organizational guarantees for the PLO leadership's adherence to the unanimous decisions and the national line followed by its legitimate institutions.

In this framework, the DFLP has called for establishing the widest national coalition to confront the capitulatory policy, the dangers of the Jordanian reactionary annexation steps, and to reunite the PLO on decisive democratic and national bases. We believe this is the only working plan that can succeed in confronting the capitulatory steps involved in 'Arafat's visit to Cairo.

[*AL-HURRIYAH*] You have made a long tour to many of the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union. What are the significant results on the Palestinian and Arab levels?

[Hawatimah] The talks which the DFLP delegation held with the Soviet comrades and with the leaders of all the socialist countries affirmed that the views were very identical on the need to concentrate efforts to overcome the current crisis in the Palestinian revolution, enhance its unity, and confront the dangers which will drag it to the Camp David position.

The Soviets and officials in the socialist countries reaffirmed their support for the unity of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the leader of their struggle to restore their legitimate rights for return, self-determination, and to establish their own independent state on their own lands. The talks also stressed the importance of preserving the PLO's unity and national line, as expressed by the resolutions of the PNC meetings, especially the recent meetings in Algiers.

The talks also affirmed the importance of correcting the developing relations between the PLO and all the Arab nationalist forces, particularly Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces, on the basis of decisive confrontation of the U.S. aggressive and blunt threats and intervention in the Arab region. The talks also affirmed the decisive confrontation of Israel's aggressive expansionist and settlement policy resulting from the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance agreement, the effects of which will undermine the security and independence of the Arab people, and threats to the liberation movement in the region and in the world.

[*AL-HURRIYAH*] The occupied lands are experiencing increasing activity by the occupation forces, and the Jordanian regime is picking the fruits of the Palestinian arena's contradictions. How do you view the present situation in the occupied lands?

[Hawatimah] For some time, the Israeli occupation authorities have been conducting feverish activities directed at breaking the comprehensive national boycott of the civil administration in order to appoint replacements for the mayors elected during the past two years.

This activity is taking place through coordination in various forms with the Jordanian authorities and their allies in the occupied lands and with U.S. support through the so-called project of economic development and growth and under a slogan concealed with false zeal to improve the daily service and interests of citizens.

The occupation authorities' activities are also accompanied by the rapid Jordanian steps which are aimed at consolidating the bridges with the occupied regions and establishing Jordan as responsible for the destiny of these regions and for their future at the expense of the PLO and the rights of the Palestinian people to return, to self-determination, and to the establishment of their national independent state.

The DFLP has called on all the popular Palestinian forces, establishments, institutions, and organizations inside and outside the occupied homeland to confront this move decisively, to expose its goals, to reveal its liquidation intentions, to declare the firm adherence to the elected municipal councils and to their legitimate mayors, and to reject every attempt to deal with the Israeli civil administrative organs and to continue to boycott them.

The DFLP also called on the PLO organizations, organs, and institutions in charge of the occupied lands to adhere to the stand of the national unanimity which has been consolidated by their decisions and especially the decisions of the PNC, the Executive Committee, and the Supreme Council of the Occupied Homeland Affairs Department and to take unified and effective measures to abort the Israeli-Jordanian move and to foil it.

As-Sa'iqah Condemns 'Arafat-Mubarak Meeting

JN031338 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus — The official spokesman of the Popular Liberation War Vanguards — the As-Sa'iqah Forces — has condemned the Yasir 'Arafat-Mubarak meeting. In a statement today, the spokesman said that Yasir 'Arafat's meeting with Mubarak, president of the Camp David regime, in the Guinean capital Conakry is another assertion of the treacherous Palestinian rightist course's determination to continue playing the same role for which it was authorized within the framework of its open joining of the U.S. plan last 22 January — a move which put the final limit on the stands of some Palestinians toward him. The spokesman asserted the need to topple 'Arafat and his treacherous course.

Aden VOP Reiterates Revolution's Military Option

GF021239 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Beyond all the statistics in the Ashdod operation, and beyond the number of casualties and the weight of the bomb which exploded the bus, one fact remains: the PLO's ability to reach any place in our occupied territory. The fact remains that it holds on to its military option which no one can abolish even through an all-out operation like that which Begin and Sharon led in the summer of 1982.

In politics there are many alternatives and the revolution can say "yes" to this and "no" to that. But on the military side, there is no alternative because it is an instrument imposed by the nature of the conflict with the enemy, the goals for which the revolution is fighting, and the goals for which the enemy is fighting. These are no less than the overall liquidation of our people and the attempt to exterminate them in the homeland and wherever they are.

The failure of Begin and Sharon has another face. It is the creative influence our revolution has had — through its glorious and distinguished experience of struggle — on the nationalist forces in Lebanon. These forces chose the military option against the invading forces and rejected the other option of negotiations and submission until it forced the others to abandon it. This was despite the magnitude of the aggressive forces mobilized to protect the accord and its continuity — halted due to valiant resistance by the Lebanese nationalists and our people's armed revolution.

Beyond all figures in the Ashdod operation and the Jerusalem operation before it, one fact remains crystal clear: This revolution was born to live and to be victorious. In reality, its survival and victory depend on its ability to practice the military apparatus so that it will base its political option, with all its angles and moves, on this military option.

This is the valuable lesson we have learned from the experience acquired in the past 20 years: Politics is not an alternative to fighting. Our revolution's experience over the last 20 years has affirmed our revolution's insistence on adopting this way and its ability to hold firmly to it, despite all the implications of political moves by some of those who are politically weak.

AS-SIYASAH on 'Crisis' in Libya-Syria Relations

GF031723 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 3 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Beirut — Syrian-Libyan relations are witnessing a silent crisis after the Progressive Socialist Party advanced to occupy the positions of al-Murabitun in Beirut toward the end of last month while the leader of this movement, Ibrahim Qulaylat, was being received by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi as a personal guest in Tripoli. Because of this, the Libyan regime stopped all military and financial aid to the party, which is headed by Mr Walid Junblatt, and to its allies.

On another level, informed Lebanese sources disclosed to *AS-SIYASAH* that President Amin al-Jumayyil has decided to relieve some of his political advisers from their posts. The sources noted that those advisers are the ones who played a part in the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations which effected the signing of 17 May agreement, and indicated that this will be part of President al-Jumayyil's policies following the abrogation of the aforementioned agreement and to implement the Lausanne decisions.

The sources explained that Wadi' Haddad, President al-Jumayyil's political adviser, will be appointed ambassador of Lebanon in Washington replacing 'Abdallah Abu Habib, who will be transferred to the central administration.

Voice of PLO Reports 3 Apr Resistance Operations

West Bank Attack

JN031718 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Within the framework of our revolutionaries' escalating operations against the Zionist occupation, a group of our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland used Molotov cocktails to attack a Zionist bus carrying settlers on the road between Ramallah and (?Baytil) in the occupied West Bank. The enemy radio admitted the operation, but refrained from mentioning the casualties of this operation. The occupation forces immediately waged an extensive arrest and search campaign in order to find the attackers.

An-Nabatiyah Attack

JN031817 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men have carried out a new military operation against the Zionist occupation forces in southern Lebanon. Using rocket shells, a group of resistance men attacked a Zionist patrol on the outskirts of An-Nabatiyah. The attack completely destroyed a Zionist armored personnel carrier. Reports from southern Lebanon said that an ambulance was seen at the site carrying seven Zionist soldiers who had been inside the armored vehicle. The reports added that thick columns of black smoke were seen coming from the vehicle. Another carrier was also hit. Zionist occupation forces besieged the area and waged a wide campaign to search for the attackers, who withdrew safely to base.

Briefs

IDB Loan to Tunisia — The Islamic Development Bank has agreed to finance a foreign trade deal for Tunisia for a $10 million purchase of sulphur. [Summary] [Manama WAKH in English 1650 GMT 3 Apr 84 GF]

IDB Loan to Bangladesh — Jidda, 31 Mar (WAKH) — Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has granted the Republic of Bangladesh $40 million in credit to finance purchase of crude oil. The loan agreement was signed here today by IDB President Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali and Bangladesh Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Mohammed Mohsen. The loan brings to $75 million the sums given by the bank to Bangladesh during this Islamic year [Text][Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 31 Mar 84 GF]

BAHRAIN

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ Praises Jerusalem Operation

GF031220 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0710 GMT 3 Apr 84

[From press review]

[Excerpts] Manama, 3 Apr (WAKH) — The Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* has lauded the daring guerilla operation which took place in the heart of Jerusalem yesterday. This operation exposed the weakness of the Zionist enemy and reminded the world of the people who resist the ugliest forms of occupation and who reject capitulation and submission.

The paper pointed out that Jerusalem is the heart of the issue, regardless of how much the enemy believes that it possesses it, tries to obliterate its Arabic heritage, and calls it the capital of its ephimeral entity. Jerusalem is the heart of the battle. Moreover, the existence of the Arab and Islamic nations is meaningless without it. The paper added that the enemy will not be safe inside this city where it will continue to be attacked by bombs and bullets regardless of the precautionary measures it adopts and the retaliatory raids it undertakes following every operation which disrupts its security. The paper said let the enemy know that it does not belong here, although it has be able to sneak through history up until now.

Concluding, *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* said that such heroic operations deserve encouragement and raise the head of every Arab high at a time when silence and despair prevails.

QATAR

Foreign Minister Meets With Britain's Luce

GF031250 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs, met at the Foreign Ministry at noon today with Mr Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign affairs, who is currently visiting Doha.

During the meeting the two ministers reviewed the scope of cooperation between the two countries and the means of consolidating it for the benefit of the two countries. They also discussed a number of regional and international issues which concern the two friendly countries. The meeting was attended by Ambassador Ahmad Jasim al-Mula, director of the protocol administration at the Foreign Ministry; and Mr Stephen Day, British ambassador to the State of Qatar.

AL-'ARAB Comments on Jerusalem Operation

GF031221 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0712 GMT 3 Apr 84

[From press review]

[Excerpts] The Qatari newspaper *AL-'ARAB* said that the heroic operation which the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine carried out against the Zionist enemy in Jerusalem represents the climax of retaliation against U.S.-Zionist aggression. It also asserts the potency of the Palestinian revolution to escalate its heroic struggle in the occupied territories to confront the savage aggression and terrorist practices being carried out by the enemy against the masses of the occupied territories and the Arab nation. The paper went on to say that this operation has special importance because of the present circumstances in which there are attempts to liquidate the Palestinian revolution and to strike at the PLO.

The paper *AL-'ARAB* emphasized that the heroes of the Jerusalem operation sincerely and awaringly translated the fact that the Palestinian revolution and the PLO are insurmountable, as late leader Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir said.

SAUDI ARABIA

Ministry Issues Budget Statement For New Fiscal Year

LD011856 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Apr (SPA) — Allocations of the budget according to sectors:

The Ministry of Finance and National Economy has issued a budget statement for the financial year beginning April 1984 by sectors.

Major sector	New financial year budget	Actual expenditure for budget from April 1983 in millions of riyals
Municipal Services	17,460	11,130
Health, information and social affairs	18,080	14,140
Education:		
Ministry of education	11,535	9,630
Female education	6,535	4,800
Universities	9,840	8,670
Training centers and institutions	2,500	1,360
Transport and communications	23,630	22,190
Economic resources	17,560	16,400
Supplies	9,830	9,380
Public administration	17,990	17,100
Public amenities and provisions	21,100	21,000
Development funds	16,000	16,000
Local subsidies	10,525	10,480

Prince Al-Faysal Meets With ICO's Chatti

LD031337 Riyadh SPA in English 1244 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Riyadh, April 3, SPA — Habib Chatti, the secretary general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) conferred here today with Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud told SAUDI PRESS AGENCY (SPA) they reviewed a number of issues which will be discussed in the upcoming meeting of the Islamic Jurisprudence Academy.

"We also discussed issues of concern to OIC foremost of them are situation in occupied Al-Quds (Jerusalem) Iran-Iraq dispute and steps taken by the organisation in this regard," Prince Sa'ud said.

Meanwhile, Chatti expressed his satisfaction with cooperation between the Kingdom and OIC and the constant assistance it was receiving from the government of HM King Fahd who is personally following the organisation's accomplishments.

Malaysian Ruler Arrives in Medina for Visit

LD031524 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1347 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Medina, 3 Apr (SPA) — His Majesty Sultan Ahmad Shah, paramount ruler of Malaysia, arrived at noon today in Medina for a visit to the Kingdom.

Crown Prince Receives Ambassadors, Messages

LD031509 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, Crown Prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and commander of the National Guard, at his office at the Royal Court today received the Omani ambassador to the Kingdom 'Abdallah 'Ali an-Najjar, who handed his royal highness a message from His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman.

His royal Highness also received the British ambassador to the Kingdom James Craig.

His Royal Highness Also received the Kuwaiti ambassador to the Kingdom Sa'ud al-'Uthaymi, who handed his royal highness a message from His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, heir apparent of Kuwait.

His Royal Highness also received the ambassador of the State of Qatar to the Kingdom 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Atiyah on the occasion of the end of his term of office in the Kingdom.

He also received the Pakistani ambassador to the Kingdom Najm Thaqi Khan, who handed his royal highness a message from the president of Pakistan Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

He also received the Iraqi ambassador to the Kingdom 'Abd al-Malik Ahmad al-Yasin.

USSR 'Relaxation' Over Lebanon Issue Noted

LD031453 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Hamzah Muhsin as-Saqqaf commentary]

[Excerpt] While the military situation is being complicated on the internal sphere in Lebanon, the latest news reports speak about relaxation in the international situation regarding the despatch of international forces to Lebanon. A meeting held yesterday between the Lebanese foreign minister and the Soviet Ambassador to Beirut was considered one of the most important indicators about the reality of this relaxation, especially that the Soviet Union until last week rejected the plan to dispatch international forces to Beirut to succeed the Multinational Force. However observers have begun to notice through the Soviet press, signs of relaxation in this stance in the wake of the official announcement on the withdrawal of the Multinational Force and all their contingents representing the four Western powers — France, Britain, Italy and the United States.

Without any doubt the withdrawal of the American fleet from Lebanese waters, as a final step representing the American military withdrawal from Lebanon, and also the departure of the French, with the exception of a symbolic detachment, this appears to have discharged the Soviet Union from the stance of rejecting the French plan to dispatch international forces to Lebanon — a plan by the Soviet Union when it was put before the UN Security Council last February.

PDRY

Fatah's Khalil al-Wazir Makes Statement, Departs

GF031738 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Brother Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, member of the Fatah Central Committee and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has expressed his appreciation for the efforts which the YSP leadership is exerting to support the unity of the PLO and strengthen its struggle against the Zionist enemy. This came in his statement to ANA made before departing Aden this morning, after concluding his several days' visit to the PDRY. During his visit he held talks with party and state officials on the status of the PLO and the developments in the situation in the Arab arena.

In his statement, Brother Abu Jihad described the talks of the Fatah delegation with the YSP leadership as successful and positive, affirming that they aim to strengthen PLO's unity and eliminate the obstacles which inactivate the course of the legitimate establishments of the PLO.

He was seen off at Aden International Airport by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; Brother 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in Aden; and a number of Central Committee Secretariat officials.

DPRK Delegation Departs After Visit, Talks

GF031822 Aden ANA in Arabic 1645 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Aden, 3 Apr (ANA) — The DPRK delegation led by Comrade Chong Chun-Ki, candidate member of the Korean Workers Party Political Bureau and vice premier of the DPRK, left Aden yesterday after a several days' visit to our country, during which it held talks with the officials in our country.

YAR

PDRY Official Brings Message, Departs San'a'

GF301850 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the [PDRY] Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee in the southern part of the homeland, today left San'a' after concluding a brief visit to the capital, during which he relayed a message from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, dealing with the consultations and the coordination in unity matters between the two parts.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir noted that the brother leader, the secretary general of the General People's Congress, gave him a message to his Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

UAE

ICO Sends Invitation for Emergency Meeting

GF031846 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Apr (WAM) — The UAE has received an invitation from the ICO General Secretariat to the emergency meeting of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers in response to a request by the PLO to discuss the situation in Jerusalem and the pressures associated with the transfer of the U.S. Embassy to occupied Jerusalem.

The ICO General Secretariat did not specify the time or the place of the meeting. It will consult with the member countries to fix the place and the time.

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives in Abu Dhabi

GF032012 Doha QNA in Arabic 1950 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Mar (QNA) — PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali arrived in Abu Dhabi from Damascus this evening on a 4-day visit to the UAE. During his visit, the PDRY minister will hold talks with UAE officials on means to bolster bilateral relations, issues of mutual interest, and current developments in the Arab arena.

Ghali Eulogizes Late Guinean President Toure

NC031425 Cairo MENA in English 1850 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, April 3 (MENA) — Egypt said tonight that today's army coup d'etat in Guinea does not diminish the late president Ahmed Sekou Toure's international prestige.

Dr. Butrus Ghali, state minister for foreign affairs, said: "The coup d'etat in Guinea does not in any way diminish Sekou Toure's prestige at the African, Islamic and non-aligned levels."

Dr. Ghali was eulogizing Sekou Toure at an official commemorative meeting attended by African ambassadors, representatives of African liberation movements, Islamic and non-aligned ambassadors, and a large public gathering.

He said Sekou Toure had a leading role along with Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir and Kwame Nkrumah in fulfilling African unity.

He added that Sekou Toure combined wide-ranging culture and practical statesmanship. He added that his culture was a mixture of heritage and modernism. He said that Sekou Toure has entered the annal of history as an immortal.

AL-AHRAM Views Egyptian-Libyan Relations

PM031112 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 29 Mar 84 p 1

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi' article: "Our Story With Al-Qadhdhafi"]

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is a strange person indeed. What is more strange is the action the colonel announced he was going to take.

By "action" here we mean what Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud announced — that Libya will organize a march to Egypt and that this march will take place on land, on the sea, and in the air.

He also announced that the aim of this march is to achieve immediate unity between Libya and Egypt whether by peace or by war.

Certainly the behavior of Col al-Qadhdhafi and his group in Libya is nothing new to the Egyptian people or the world peoples.

The question that comes to the forefront of the political scene isnow: What would happen if Al-Qadhdhafi moved or actually acted in such a manner?

The answer is crystal clear: Naturally Egypt will make a consciousand unhurried move to repel aggression against its territory and sovereignty first and foremost. Obviously a decision by a certain state to cross into the territory of another state by force is by all standards a blatant and direct aggression against another state. Such action is unjustifiable however lofty the objective may be. States do not deal with one another in such a way and such an objective cannot be achieved by a method like this. Unity is a great objective but the means here are strange and unacceptable.

For the first time we hear, and the world hears, in the dictionary of relations between countries, something called imposing unity by force.

Egypt has strong reasons that compel it to reject such a method both in form and in content.

Foremost among these reasons is that it has been proved through experience that Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi ad-Dam's [as published] intentions are always strange, unsound, unpredictable, unfathomable, unreliable, or changeable.

It would perhaps be appropriate here to reveal some of the contacts through which Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi ad-Dam tried to conduct a dialogue with President Husni Mubarak in the recent past:

1. Col al-Qadhdhafi ad-Dam sent his cousin Ahmad al-Qadhdhafi ad-Dam — Ad-Dam [blood] here being the family name — to meet with President Mubarak during his visit to Morocco to discuss the opening of the Egyptian-Libyan borders. President Mubarak told him that Egypt is not adopting a hostile attitude toward Libya and all that it is asking for are good neighborly relations. The opening of borders should take place through negotiations and in a legal manner that would ensure the interest and security of both sides.

2. Some weeks later Col al-Qadhdhafi sent a message to President Mubarak through a university professor asking Egypt to abrogate the Camp David treaty.

What is strange is that Al-Qadhdhafi demanded that President Husni Mubarak make a written pledge to abrogate the treaty but that if this is not possible then a verbal promise by the Egyptian president to abrogate it would suffice.

3. A few days ago President al-Qadhdhafi sent a message via another Egyptian adding a new demand to the list of his previous demands, namely the need to declare immediate unity between Egypt and Libya.

4. The latest thing that he has asked Egypt for concerned the Nile River. He asked for the digging of a canal from Nasir Lake to Al-Kufrah oasis and the building of a pipeline from Al-Kufrah to Tobruk and from Tobruk to Tripoli, the Libyan capital, to carry fresh water from the Nile.

We are not going to discuss here the feasibility or other aspects of these projects but, with patience, we will submit Egypt's views regarding the colonel's geographical demands:

First and foremost Egypt alone does not have the right to dispose of the Nile's water because this is regulated by international covenants and treaties with the Nile basin countries, and shares of these waters are based accordingly for each of these countries

Second, historically it is known that Al-Kufrah oasis, which until the beginning of this century was within Egypt's geographical borders, has abundant subterranean waters that should satisfy Col al-Qadhdhafi so that there will be no need for him to cast his eyes toward the Nile waters.

But the confirmation of the collapse of bridges of trust between Egypt and Libya was what happened in one of President Mubarak's meetings with Al-Qadhdhafi's envoys with the aim of beginning a dialogue to promote trust between the two countries. An hour after one of these meetings Al-Qadhdhafi bombed Omdurman radio.

What is even stranger is that while Libya was officially denying bombing Omdurman radio and attempting to make the world believe that it was purely a Sudanese raid by one of those opposed to President Numayri's policy in Sudan, an official from Libya contacted the Egyptian authorities and frankly admitted that it was a Libyan plane that raided Omdurman. He also said in his admission that "Egypt was not a target in this attack, that Libya has no intention of attacking Egypt, and that what saddens Libya is that it has approved the arrival of the U.S. AWACS aircraft."

It is to be noted here that the AWACS is not an attack aircraft; it only carries sophisticated equipment for the early warning of any attack or movement of forces.

Is it not then our right that the more Al-Qadhdhafi holds contacts with us, the more we suspect that he is secretly preparing for something unexpected?

We would like to say clearly to Col al-Qadhdhafi: Is it not better to send a Libyan delegation to hold clear-cut negotiations regarding all the problems concerning the two countries? Is it not better, if Col al-Qadhdhafi really wants to win over the Egyptian people, to frankly declare the resumption of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Libya, particularly since Egypt was not the first to sever such relations between the two countries?

What is strange is that Al-Qadhdhafi forgets there is a joint defense pact between Egypt and Sudan, and that there is a clear and declared principle in Egypt which says that any threat to Sudan is a direct threat to Egypt and that Egypt's strategic depth is a strategic depth for Sudan and vice versa.

Is it not better for Al-Qadhdhafi to initiate a dialogue with the rest of the Arab countries in an attempt to bring the Arabs together and restore solidarity for the Arab nation instead of continuing this division and dispersion and waste from which we are suffering?

Frankly we say: Egypt always adheres to its principle which is not to launch an attack on any country, least of all if it is a sisterly Arab state. At the same time Egypt cannot and will not at any time or under any circumstances allow any country, whomever it may be, to interfere in its internal affairs or jeopardize its sovereignty and security.

We say frankly that Egypt is always ready to repel any attack on its honor, dignity, and sovereignty and reject pressures, whatever they may be.

Egypt's soil is its honor; Egypt's soil is its dignity. Nobody would forsake his honor and dignity.

Beirut: Abba Eban Arrives for 2-Day Visit

NC040505 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Abba Eban, a former Israeli foreign minister and a prominent member of the Israeli Labor Party, arrived in Cairo yesterday for a 2-day visit at the invitation of Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs.

Eban told reporters at the airport that his talks will deal with Middle East developments and ways of improving Egyptian-Israeli relations.

Relations between Egypt and Israel, which signed a peace treaty in 1979, became tense following the Israeli aggression against Lebanon in 1982.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC032125 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak arrived in Cairo from New York tonight after heading the Sudanese delegation at the UN Security Council meetings. The meetings were held to discuss Sudan's complaint against Libya for raiding Omdurman. The foreign minister was met on arrival by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

The Sudanese foreign minister said his visit to Cairo is aimed at exchanging views on coordinating between the Egyptian and Sudanese stances.

Tomorrow afternoon talks will be held between Dr Butrus Ghali and Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak.

New Envoy to Jordan Leaves Cairo for Amman

NC031654 Cairo MENA in Arabic 16456 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 3 Apr (MENA) — Ambassador Ihab Wahbah left Cairo for Amman tonight to assume his post as the head of the Egyptian interests' mission in Jordan. Ambassador Wahbah succeeds Ambassador Nabil Badr, who has been transferred to a post in the Foreign Ministry.

Opposition Doubts Libyan Role in Omdurman Raid

PM031111 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 27 Mar 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Egypt Should Not Be Dragged in the Wake of Certain Objectives"]

[Text] Socialist Labor Party leader engineer Ibrahim Shukri has stated that there are some doubts regarding the entire Omdurman incident, that there is no evidence and nothing to confirm that the aircraft involved was Libyan or that it took off from Al-Kufrah airfield, and that there may be some aims behind such incidents.

He added: we have heard that U.S. AWACS planes have arrived in the region and that the three countries (Sudan, the United States, and Egypt) will participate in the defense of Egypt and Sudan. I do not believe that there is a need for all that because a Libyan threat to Egypt and Sudan is inconceivable as they are all Arab brothers. The truth is that there are certain issues in Sudan which should be tackled, such as, the differences and disturbances in southern Sudan and the unfavorable relations between Sudan and some of its neighbors. Sudan has vast borders. It has common boundaries with nine states. These borders cannot be secured in the absence of neighborly relations. Egypt's efforts and real role should be in this field. It should not be confined to sending troops and equipment, to which we do not object, because we believe that Egypt should not be dragged in the wake of certain objectives.

He also said: In the final analysis, we are for more real solidarity between the Egyptian and Sudanese people to ease their burdens and serve their interests.

Shukri made this statement in reply to a colleague's question during the party's weekly meeting.

Correspondent Analyzes Egyptian-Soviet Relations

GF031714 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 2 Apr 84 pp 1, 22

[Fathi Sharif dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Egyptian-Soviet relations are bound to be a major concern of Arab and Western political circles in Cairo.

Unofficial Egyptian sources were quoted as saying that Cairo comprehensively and frankly has explained its position toward future relations with Moscow through messages conveyed recently to the new Soviet leadership in the Kremlin. Therefore, Cairo expects that this time the initiative will come from Moscow. These sources expect that the Soviets will make a quick and practical move during the coming months, especially since the Soviets have become more convinced about the balanced and neutral role which the Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is playing in regard to his relations and dealings with the major international powers. Reports available to the Western diplomatic circles in Cairo say that Moscow has expressed its satisfaction and welcomed President Mubarak's policy. Moscow affirmed that the Soviet leadership has no conditions or reservations concerning the restoration of these relations so that a new page can be turned with Cairo.

These ideas and stands were conveyed to the Egyptian presidency recently. The Soviet leadership in its message which was officially delivered affirmed that the Soviet Union is ready to resume the shipment of weapons and military aid which Egypt needs, to consolidate the economic and technical relations, and to discuss the rescheduling of some of Egypt's military debts.

Egyptian political circles said that relations with the Soviet Union will not be at the expense of Egypt's relations with any other international force, including the United States. These circles said that the current contacts between Cairo and Moscow have not stopped; rather, they notably became more active in the last period. These contacts have nothing to do with the Egyptian position which criticizes the U.S policy in the Middle East, especially with regard to the Egyptian demand, which has been affirmed by President Mubarak, on the necessity of conducting a U.S.-Palestinian dialogue and ending U.S. intervention in Lebanon and Washington's support for the Israeli settlement policy in the occupied territories.

Cairo political circles also say that the rapproachment which stands between Cairo and Moscow is natural, especially after the Egyptian president supported the convening of an international conference, in which the Soviet Union and all the concerned parties will take part, to bring about a final and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis.

However, the main point which is still the main concern of these circles is related to the nature of the role which Libya is playing in Sudan and Chad, and whether the Soviets have an influence on some of these moves against Egyptian policy in Africa. There is an impression in Cairo that the issue of relations with the Soviet Union as a superpower is not governed only by political and economic relations. It is also governed by the extension of Soviet influence and intervention in areas in which Egypt has influence and in areas which have influence on Egypt. Therefore, the dialogue and contacts between Cairo and Moscow will be activated through all these angles and elements. This issue up until now seems to have been the main obstacle in restoring the bridges of the Egyptian-Soviet relations.

MAY Criticizes U.S. Aid for Israel

PM031418 Cairo MAY in Arabic 1 Apr 84 p 2

[Unattributed article: "Israeli Affairs"]

[Excerpts] Since Israeli Prime Minister and Likud leader Yitzhaq Shamir and opposition Labor Party leader Shimon Peres agreed on 23 July as the date for the Israeli elections, the Israeli people have begun to wonder whether they really want to continue along the road of the Likud coalition which has been at the helm since 1977 or would rather have a leadership that does not resort to political, economic, and security adventures as the Likud has been doing.

What we do not understand is the aim of the U.S. Administration in setting a serious precedent just as the election battle between Likud and Labor gathers momentum. We do not know if the aim is to help the Likud coalition win the elections or not. The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee has agreed, for the first time, to set a minimum of $1 billion in annual aid for Israel to cover the interest on its outstanding debts to the United States and to pay Israel the entire annual aid in cash within the first quarter of the year instead of throughout the whole year. Two members of the ruling Republican Party were among the nine senators who approved this decision, which was opposed by nine committee members.

We do not care who rules Israel, Likud or Labor, because the views of both parties do not help the establishment of peace or the promotion of understanding between Israel and its Arab neighbors. They do not recognize the Palestinian leadership, the

PLO, or any national Palestinian entity — which are the keys to real peace in the area.

What concerns us here is the attitude and policy of the United States in its capacity as a partner in the peace efforts who is supposed to check Israeli ambitions and persuade it to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people through diplomatic negotiations and dialogue aimed at establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee's recent position on U.S. foreign aid undoubtedly hinders the achievement of peace in the region.

Mubarak Cables Losonczi on Independence Day

NC031400 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1259 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 3 Apr (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has sent a congratulatory cable to Hungarian President Pal Losonczi on the occasion of Hungary's independence day. The cable reads as follows:

I am delighted to send Your Excellency my sincere congratulations on your independence day. My best wishes of health and happiness to you and of progress and prosperity to the friendly Hungarian people.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,424 - 3 April

JN031756 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1604 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,424 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 3 April 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave sons of Iraq, while continuing to defend their beloved homeland and the sublime principles of their revolution against Iranian expansionist designs, confirm their ability to crush the aggressor invaders and to wipe out their black dreams. The results of the activities are as follows:

1. Our valiant forward units used artillery and various other weapons to engage enemy positions and units opposite their positions in the eastern Basra operational sector. They killed 23 of the enemy, wounded several others, and destroyed one excavator and various types of weapons. Our units also destroyed 10 excavators, 5 vehicles, and 1 armored personnel carrier in other areas in the same sector.

2. Our heroic Air Force eagles today raided enemy units and arms and equipment positions opposite our forward units' positions in the eastern Basra operational sector, inflicting losses in both personnel and equipment. This morning our daring fighter planes also directed an effective strike on enemy concentrations in the Maysan operational sector. All of our planes returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Our brave helicopter cavaliers today attacked enemy concentrations and equipment positions opposite our unit's positions in the eastern Tigris operational sector, scoring direct hits and destroying four boats laden with equipment. The helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. One of our forward units used various types of weapons to attack an enemy vehicle and observation post opposite its positions in the Maysan operational sector. The unit succeeded in destroying the vehicle and the post. It was also confirmed that our anti- aircraft batteries in the aforementioned sector succeeded in shooting down one of the enemy Phantoms that raided 'Ali al-Gharbi on 30 March.

5. Four of the enemy were killed, and one arms cache and one observation post were destroyed in the central operational sector.

6. Two personnel and weapons positions and one vehicle were destroyed in the eastern Tigris operational sector.

7. One enemy was killed in the northern operational sector.

8. The criminal Khomeyniite clique shelled Basra, Mandali, Zurbatiyah and their outskirts with heavy artillery last night and this morning. As a result of this savage enemy shelling, nine civilians were wounded and six houses and a number of civilian installations were damaged in Basra; an Indian ship was set on fire in Shatt al-'Arab; one civilian was wounded, and two houses were destroyed in Mandali; and one plantation was damaged in Zurbatiyah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 April 1984.

President Receives King Husayn's Envoy, Message

JN031648 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1604 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] President Saddam Husayn this evening received Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the royal court in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. He conveyed a written message from His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal dealing with the scope of cooperation between the two fraternal countries and the exchange of viewpoints on the Arab situation.

Marwan al-Qasim reviewed the recent U.S. stands in support of the Zionist enemy, and Jordan's viewpoint on these stands. He also renewed Jordan's call for Arab solidarity. The Jordanian envoy conveyed His Majesty King Husayn's greetings and reaffirmation of Jordan's support for Iraq in its just war against the aggression of the rancorous Iranian regime. The president asked the chief of the royal court to convey his greetings to his brother, His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal.

The meeting was attended by Ahmad Husayn, head of the presidential office and secretary to the president of the republic.

Minutes of Cooperation Signed With New Zealand

JN031002 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Wellington, 3 Apr (INA) — A joint minute for technical and economic cooperation between Iraq and New Zealand was signed here today. Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform signed the minute for the Iraqi side; while Warren Cooper, New Zealand foreign minister signed the minute for the New Zealand side.

Two committees for joint technical and economic cooperation, stemming from the meetings of the joint Iraqi-New Zealand committee, yesterday discussed the topics on the agenda and the means of promoting the economic and agricultural cooperation between the two countires.

The Iraqi minister left Baghdad last Friday for New Zealand to attend the meetings of the joint Iraqi-New Zealand committee which began its work last Saturday.

PRC Friendship Delegation Arrives for Visit

JN040843 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Apr (INA) — Lin Lin, vice president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries, arrived here last night at the head of a delegation on a 2-week visit to Iraq at the invitation of the Union of Iraqi Societies of Friendship with Peoples.

The Chinese delegation will hold several meetings with Iraqi officials to promote friendship between the Chinese and Iraqi peoples.

Daily Criticizes Renewed British-Iranian Cooperation

JN031328 Baghdad INA in English 1245 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, April 3, INA — A leading Iraqi daily said today that Britain found in the Iranian regime and its imposed war on Iraq an appropriate door through which it can return to the Arab Gulf region hoping to restore its lost role, influence and imperialist imterests.

In a commentary Tuesday, *ATH-THAWRAH* daily said British attempts to return to the region have been expressed by a military existence with the cooperation of the U.S. through pushing war ships, minesweepers to the region under the pretext of protecting the Strait of Hormuz as well as by waging an intensive propaganda campaign against Iraq and expanding British-Iranian relations.

"The renewal of the old British-Iranian cooperation is based on a joint ground of firm hostility to Iraq and the Arab nation," the paper stressed. *ATH-THAWRAH* organ of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party, that the British propaganda campaign against Iraq cannot hide the essence of British hostility against Iraq and the Arab nation and at the same time, the campaign was completely unable to cover up the approaching of British and U.S. war ships to the Arab Gulf.

It added "Logic says that those who are keen over international peace and stability in the region should stand against the party which insists on prolonging the war and condemn aggression before weeping in that hypocritic way over this issue or over the use of that weapon."

The daily, in conclusion, said Britain's role in the Arab Gulf region, lost under the impact of our Arab peoples struggle, has become futile simply because the wheel of history does not go back.

INA: Oil Sources Say Iranian Oil Exports Declining

JN031329 Baghdad INA in English 1300 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Vienna, April 3, INA — Iranian oil exports declined by nearly 20 per cent following the tightening of Iraqi military blockade on Iran's major oil terminal of Khark Island, well-informed oil sources said here today.

The sources noted that recent Lloyds move raising insurance premiums on tankers heading to Iranian ports on the Gulf, reflects the company's fears following the sinking or destroying of several ships and oil tankers by Iraqi Navy and Air Force.

Insurance premiums, the sources pointed out, were increased from 0.75 to 1.5 per cent.

Several international oil companies who until now were buying crude oil from Iran had resorted to other countries to satisfy their oil needs, the sources said.

Reportage on Visit of Spanish Foreign Minister

Arrives in Amman

JN032113 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Amman — Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran arrived in Amman this evening on a 4-day official visit to Jordan. He will hold talks with high-ranking Jordanian officials on the Middle East problem, various international issues, and bilateral relations.

He was received at the airport by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri; Walid Tash, secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Tariq Madi, chief of protocol at the ministry; the Jordanian ambassador in Madrid; the Spanish ambassador in Amman; and the embassy staff.

Calls Husayn's Statements 'Wise'

JN041055 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 4 Apr 84 pp 1, 19

[Rabab Mangu's dispatch]

[Text] Amman —Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran arrived in Amman last night on a 4-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, he will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on the developments of the situation in the region and bilateral relations. He will also head a meeting of Spanish ambassadors in the region.

In an exclusive statement to *AR-RA'Y*, the Spanish minister stressed that there can be no solution to the Palestinian question without recognizing the PLO and the Palestinian people's national rights.

Moran described His Majesty King Husayn's statements regarding U.S. policy in the region as wise. He denied any pressures by the EC states on his country to recognize the Zionist entity. He added that his visit to the region is to discuss the Middle East developments, the Palestinian question, and the cooperative relations between Spain and the region's states. He praised Jordanian-Spanish relations and described them as good and cordial.

Moran said that the objective of the meeting of Spanish ambassadors in the region, scheduled to be held in Amman today, is to discuss the means to promote Spanish-Arab relations. He said: We have chosen Jordan as a venue for the meeting due to its good location and due to the strong relations between Jordan and Spain. He said that he met President Hafiz al-Asad in Syria and discussed with him the developments in the region. He added that he noticed a difference in the Saudi and Syrian viewpoints regarding the Iraq-Iran war, and that he did not notice any difference regarding the Palestinian question.

He was received at the airport by Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri; Walid Tash, secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign affairs; Tariq Madi, chief of protocol at the ministry; the Jordanian ambassador in Madrid; the Spanish ambassador in Amman; and the embassy staff.

Dailies on U.S. Reaction to Jerusalem Operation

JN040936 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 4 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Jerusalem Operation and the Mine Field," *AR-RA'Y* says: The U.S. Administration's official spokesman, ignoring all facts and values of justice and right, has denounced the Jerusalem operation, considering it violence which is the outcome of violence. In a statement issued by the Arab League secretary general, Chedli Klibi pointed to the deliberate ignorance of facts in the U.S. statement. The Arab League secretary general's statement pointed out that the U.S. spokesman did not refer to the occupation of the West Bank, the Zionist enemy's settlement policy, or the injustice against the Palestinian land and people. It seems that the United States views the Jerusalem operation as an individual act of violence in reply to another individual act of violence. This stand proves the lack of U.S. respect for facts and lack of responsibility toward the issues of justice, peace, and stability in this part of the world.

AR-RA'Y adds: The official U.S. spokesman's statements regarding the so-called violence that breeds violence appear to be justification in advance for any aggressive Zionist action, or a clear sign that the United States will excuse the Zionist military institution if it carries out new terrorist actions against Palestinian citizens inside and outside the occupied territory.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Washington's responsibility is not to content itself with issuing these statements. This responsibility can be shown by proving its real ability to achieve just peace. This ability can only be achieved if Washington stops its military, political, and economic support of an entity that takes up acts of annihilation as a profession, turns its back on the international community, and ignores its resolutions, recommendations, and stands. This region will continue to be a minefield as long as the insistence on usurping the land, Judaizing it, and expelling its citizens still exist, and as long as Zionist ideology agrees with the U.S. policy that force, supremacy, and arrogance can defeat our nationand force it to capitulate. If this minefield has not yet affected world peaceand many hostile interests in this region, then the continuation of the U.S. policy as a captive of the racial Zionist ideology will make the big explosion go far beyond the Middle East. Despite the fact that the world is aware of these dangers, Washington still insists on its stand. Moreover, it is still unable to realize the real situation and future possibilities except from the viewpoint of world Zionism and its hostile military tool.

Under the headline "Fallacy in the American Way," *AD-DUSTUR* says: When the official U.S. spokesman accuses the Palestinians of having opted for violence instead of peace through their operation, and stresses denunciation of this operation, then by doing so, he is making the U.S. judgment we anticipated, although he did not tell the Palestinians or others where the road to peace lies. Washington's biased policy toward Israel — a policy that lacks the spirit of justice for the Middle East — has killed any ray of hope for achieving this peace. Those who listened to the U.S. spokesman, when he blamed the Palestinians for opting for violence, wished that the U.S. spokesman had mentioned that due to Israeli intransigence, the political efforts that

Washington has exerted, the peaceful initiatives it has proposed, the diplomatic efforts it has promoted, and the political envoys it has dispatched were unable to even create a crack in the wall of the Israeli policy that rejects the alleged road to peace to which the U.S. spokesman pointed. We would have taken the U.S. statements seriously had Washington committed itself to its declared principles and commitments regarding the achievement of a political settlement in the region, and adopted an independent policy away from Israel, instead of supporting it militarily and financially to entrench its occupation of Arab territory and continuing to ignore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

AD-DUSTUR adds: It is time for Washington and other Western capitals, which denounced the occupied Jerusalem operation, to relinquish political hypocrisy that will not extinguish any fire in the Middle East, to treat a wound that is a result of the many Israeli wars and invasions, and does not represent a real effort to settle the complicated issues in this part of the world.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: It would have been better for those who have left the Palestinian people nothing but great pain, never encouraged them to opt for the road of an honorable peace, and continued to ignore their existence and legitimate national aspirations, to pay attention to the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, instead of denouncing this operation and flattering Israel. However, their denunciation will not prevent the recurrence of what took place the day before yesterday, whether in Jerusalem or elsewhere in the occupied Arab cities, as long as the Palestinian people continue to suffer from the tyranny of occupation and its hateful actions.

Jerusalem Operation Not Isolated Incident

JN031742 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The incident that took place in Jerusalem yesterday cannot be isolated from the Middle East crisis and its successive developments since the Palestine question began. Israel's terrorism, represented by its aggressive practices in the occupied Palestinian territories, in Lebanon, and in the Golan Heights, as well as Israel's feverish efforts through the Zionist lobby in the United States to move the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem, will arouse reaction from Arab citizens. Thesecitizens are being exposed to very severe injustice at the hands of Israel. At a time when Israel believes that it can continue its occupation of the Arab lands in Palestine, Lebanon, Egypt, and Syria without any reaction and believes that it can bring about peace by imposing the fait accompli policy, yesterday's incident in Jerusalem,as well as similar incidents both in Palestine and Lebanon, confirm the fact that Israel cannot keep its gains from the war and cannot realize Israel's security by confiscating other people's lands, security, and stability.

The UN secretary general stressed yesterday that this operation and similar previous ones express the dire need to resume efforts to bring about a just and lasting settlement of all aspects of the Middle East problems. Therefore, the main sources for the state of instability that Israel is experiencing in the security, social, and economic fields are: not achieving a just and lasting settlement of the Middle East crisis; and Israel's determination to continue to violate Arab rights and usurp Arab land from its legitimate owers. Whenever it steps up its aggression, Israel will arouse negative reactions. Israel should pay a price. The Jerusalem operation is another Arab voice from under the debris of the huge destruction that Israel caused in Lebanon and the occupied Arab territories. It is a voice that announces to the world that the Arab cause will remain an Arab one and that Arab Jerusalem will remain Arab — regardless of the fierce discussions in the U.S. Congress or the conflict between the U.S. presidential candidates. Consequently, only a just and lasting settlement will end the confusion, disturbances, destruction, and action and reaction in the Middle East.

Further on Visit of USSR Official Brutents

Meets Al-Jumayyil, Answers Questions

NC031356 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil this morning received Soviet envoy Karen Brutents. Their discussion dealt with the Soviet Union's position regarding the current situation in Lebanon.

After the meeting, Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, was asked:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What is the Soviet position which you conveyed to his excellency the president?

[Brutents remarks in Russian with superimposed Arabic translation] We conveyed to his excellency the president, and affirmed to him, the firm Soviet position which supports Lebanon's unity, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. We also affirmed to his excellency the president that the Soviet Union believes it necessary to implement the UN resolutions without delay regarding the immediate withdrawal of all Israeli occupation forces from Lebanese territory, and specifically from southern Lebanon.

We are fully convinced that Israel's disregard of these resolutions, with the support of its foreign protectors, is considered one of the most important obstacles in the way of finding a solution to internal Lebanese problems.

[Unidentified reporter] The Soviet Union has often affirmed its position of support for Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity. This was expressed by words. How does the Soviet Union translate this position into deeds?

[Brutents] We believe that even a statement issued by a state such as the Soviet Union has its significance. The weight of all the Soviet state stands behind this Soviet statement. What you call words not only guides us in our position towards Lebanon, but in our positions on all international issues and bilateral relations as well. Furthermore, the loud Soviet voice is heard better than the Arab voices in some instances.

[Unidentified reporter] Is there a practical Soviet initiative to assist Lebanon in ending its ordeal?

[Brutents] In reply to this question, we would like to say there is no doubt that the Soviet Union will assist and support all of the efforts in this direction. In addition to one aspect of the issue — that of the Israeli occupation — there is another aspect, which is foreign interference in Lebanon's internal affairs. The Lebanese problem has internal causes. We think that in order to overcome these causes, national reconciliation should be achieved — not through arms, but constructive democratic dialogue.

[Unidentified reporter] It is known that the Soviet Union has been seeking to obstruct all solutions in which it has not participated, or from which it was kept out. Does the Soviet Union think the time has come to effectively participate in the solutions?

[Brutents] The way the question was formulated dictates that we should predict the intention of the question. What are the solutions you are talking about? Do you mean the Lebanese-Israeli agreement?

[Unidentified reporter] I mean the Security Council resolutions, the UN force in Lebanon.

[Brutents] We did not oppose that Security Council resolution because we did not participate in it; we opposed it because it was lacking and did not address itself to an important aspect of the issue, namely, the need for the U.S. Sixth Fleet to withdraw from Lebanese territory — the U.S. fleet which bombarded Lebanese villages and towns, and which is well-known to the Lebanese people. Had we not opposed that resolution, it would have meant that we shared in it — whereas we did not encourage such a situation. Had this article been included in the resolution, it would have been something else; but it was not. [end recording]

Brutents News Conference 3 Apr

NC031941 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department held a news conference today at 1700 at the Beau Rivage Hotel. During the conference, Brutents stressed that the Soviet Union is not sparing any effort to bring about the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions calling for Israel's unconditional and prompt withdrawal. Brutents expressed his belief that a solution of the Middle East crisis requires a unity of Arab decision. Brutents said all the parties and political leaderships he has met have expressed their satisfaction over the cancellation of the 17 May agreement and withdrawal of the Multinational Force — a force that was only an obstacle in the way of a solution.

Brutents pointed out that attempts are being made to terminate Israel's occupation of the south. This occupation, he said, is harmful to Lebanon. Brutents said he felt all the parties are sincerely attempting to find a solution to the crisis through constructive dialogue and national reconciliation. He added that Lebanon's internal crisis cannot be solved except through agreement among the Lebanese themselves.

It is noteworthy that many journalists and local and foreign correspondents attended the conference. The conference was also attended by Fu'ad Salman, secretary general of the Progressive Socialist Party; Karim Muruwwah from the Lebanese Communist Party; and Yusuf Khattar from the Lebanese Journalist Union.

PSP Leaders Host Luncheon

NC031910 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leaders Marwan Hamadah, Muhsin Dallul, Fu'ad Salman, Khalil Ahmad Khalil, 'Adil (Tayyun), 'Ali al-Musawi, and Lieutenant Colonel Sharif Fayyad hosted a working luncheon for the CPSU Central Committee delegation now visiting Lebanon. Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov also attended the lunch which was held today at the Coral Beach Hotel.

A senior PSP official stated the following after the lunch:

This was a chance to exchange views and review the various political conditions involving the Lebanese crisis from both the local and international aspects. The talks demonstrated the similarity of our views and unity of our stances vis-a-vis the challenges existing in both the Lebanese and Arab arenas. We also deliberated on bilateral relations between the PSP and CPSU, and decided to strengthen and continue these relations in the context of the joint struggle to liberate Lebanon and support the cause of liberation throughout the Arab region and world.

Meanwhile, Soviet delegation leader Brutents made the following statement to the Voice of the Mountain radio:

We came to Lebanon at the invitation of the Lebanese Communist Party and friendly PSP. The latter enjoys excellent relations with the CPSU because of its patriotic stands. The PSP is defending the safety, unity, and independence of its homeland. It is struggling against Israeli aggression, and has also played an honorable role in bringing about the cancellation of the 17 May agreement. We deeply respect Walid Junblatt and his PSP.

Answering a question, Brutents said: We support the PSP in its struggle to find a positive solution to Lebanese issues — a solution based on national reconciliation and dialogue between all the parties concerned. We also stand by the unity and safety of the Lebanese territories.

Commenting on the Lebanese south, Brutents said: We have always been and continue to oppose Israel's occupation of the south. In this respect we are calling for the implementation of the UN Security Council's resolution. We respectfully regard the national resistance of the southerners in the face of the occupation. We are also vehemently seeking to make world public opinion pay more attention to this issue.

Visits North, Meets Karami

NC041256 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, today visited the Ash-Shamal Governorate where he held a meeting at 1000 with leaders of the Lebanese Communist Party in Amyun, Al-Kurah District. The meeting was attended by Mahmud al-Wawi, Communist Party official in the north; Rashid Yusuf, Communist Party Central Committee member; and a number of party leaders. They discussed the current political situation in light of the Multinational Forces withdrawal from Beirut, the Soviet Union's support for the unity of Lebanon — its land and people — and its call for the Lebanese to engage in dialogue instead of resorting to weapons.

The Soviet envoy and delegation accompanying him then called on [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami at his residence and held a tete-a-tete with him.

The Soviet envoy is scheduled to meet the leaders of the progressive parties in the north at Syrian Social Nationalist Party Headquarters in Tripoli and then visit [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah in Zgharta.

Meets Franjiyah 4 Apr

NC041211 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah received at 1245 today the CPSU Central Committee delegation headed by Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department. The delegation included Minister Plenipotentiary Suslikov, Sergey Kuzmin, and Vyacheslav Matuzov. The meeting was attended by Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rafi'i.

Kuwait AS-SIYASAH: USSR Arms May Be Purchased

GF031518 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 3 Apr 84 p 1

[Muhammad 'Adnan dispatch from Beirut]

[Text] The results of the current visit to Lebanon by a Soviet delegation have been described as having new connotations in Lebanon's foreign policy. Informed political sources have advised *AS-SIYASAH* that President Amin al-Jumayyil does not now object to purchasing Soviet arms if the U.S. Administration refuses to increase its military aid to Beirut.

The sources stressed that the Lebanese Army will submit to the Soviet delegation a list of arms it needs in the current circumstances. The sources added that the Soviet delegation actually contacted its leaders in Moscow and informed them of the Lebanese desire for Soviet arms.

It is worth noting that the Soviet delegation, headed by Karen Brutents, represents the CPSU Central Committee.

The sources revealed that one of the U.S. Administration's primary reasons for refraining from shipping the arms to the Lebanese Army is the seizure of U.S. arms, owned by the Lebanese Army, by forces of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP]. The sources said the PSP forces were able to give some specimens of these arms to Soviet experts in the area. The sources continued that the Soviet experts discovered the secret of these arms, especially those relating to the 'M-48' tanks and surface-to-surface [TOW?] missiles.

AS-SIYASAH asked the sources about the purpose of the visit to Beirut by both French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson and Defense Minister Charles Hernu. They said the two ministers asked President al-Jumayyil to revive the French proposal on the replacement of the Multinational Force in Lebanon by an international force. The sources mentioned that the two ministers pointed out to President al-Jumayyil that the French proposal would again be raised at the United Nations. Moscow had used the right of veto to abort the plan when it was first proposed. However, the two French ministers emphasized to President al-Jumayyil, according to the sources, that Moscow would not use the right of veto this time. They explained this development is due to the withdrawal of the U.S. Sixth Fleet from Lebanese shores, which was the condition the Soviets were proclaiming prior to their use of the veto.

More Reportage on Visit of UN Official Urquhart

Meets Al-Wazzan

NC031750 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] At 1600 today, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan received Brian Urquhart, assistant UN secretary general for political affairs, who was accompanied by the personal representative of the UN secretary general in Lebanon and coordinator of UN aid.

The discussions during the meeting dealt with the general situation in Lebanon, the role of UNFIL in the south on the occasion of the approaching renewal of that force's mandate, the situation now prevailing in the area, and the importance of the continued presence of UNIFIL and its working conditions.

The meeting was an occasion for Prime Minister al-Wazzan to present an elaborate explanation of the situation in the south and the need for understanding the dangers prevailing in the area in light of the continued Israeli occupation and practices which are being met with splendid national resistance. He said that on the basis of this premise, what occurred in Jerusalem yesterday, and the valiant national resistance in the south clearly indicate that security cannot be achieved through occupation or security arrangements, but by giving the people their rights and justice, be they the people of Lebanon, Palestine, or all the occupied Arab territories.

On his part, Urquhart briefed Prime Minister al-Wazzan on the talks he had in Syria and Israel. It was agreed to continue contacts and coordination to achieve positions that will achieve the purpose for which UNIFIL was mandated in accordance with Resolution No 425.

After the meeting, Urquhart said: We had very fruitful talks with Prime Minister al-Wazzan. I was very happy to meet him again. We discussed the general situation and current circumstances as well as what we can do to provide assistance, especially in relation to the south, and the forthcoming debate on this issue at the Security Council. We hope to be able to carry out fruitful work in this domain.

Meets Al-Jumayyil, Statement

NC032053 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil today received at 1830 at the Presidential Palace Brian Urquhart, assistant UN secretary general for political affairs, who was accompanied by (Iqbal Akhund), personal representative of the UN secretary general and coordinator of development aid to Lebanon, and (Jean Claude Denier), political adviser to UNIFIL. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim; Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni; and Ambassador Ghazi Shidq Shidyaq.

Following the 1-hour meeting, Urquhart said: I came to Lebanon to discuss with the president and his government aides the current situation, particularly that prevailing in south Lebanon since a debate will take place at the Security Council next week regarding the future of UNIFIL in the south. It was very useful for me to hear the president's views on this subject and discuss the issues that concern Lebanon, and seek to settle them through the Security Council.

Asked if the United Nations is inclined to extend the UNIFIL mandate in the south, Urquhart said: I hope so. I believe the secretary general will recommend that; however, it is the Security Council that ultimately will decide the matter. In any case, we must consult with the Lebanese officials before we submit our report in order to make sure our views are in complete agreement on the way things should proceed. This is important to me. I thank the president for the time he has given me to discuss these matters.

Urquhart was asked: Some time ago, Lebanon asked that UNIFIL be deployed throughout all of its territory. Will this matter be looked into again? He replied: The Security Council considered this matter, but there continue to be difficulties. We have to wait and see how things develop with regard to UNIFIL in the south. Who knows, this subject might be raised again. We have to see what the Security Council will decide in general. As far as the secretary general is concerned, we very much hope and recommend that every possible assistance be given to Lebanon which we regard as a very important UN member. We also believe the Lebanese Government and people truly deserve every assistance we can give them. We hope to do so.

Summit With Syrians To Be Held in 'Near Future'

NC040638 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Press reports this morning spoke of a Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting in the near future to discuss all matters that contrinue to impede implementation of the Lausanne conference resolutions. These reports said the summit meeting was agreed upon in a telephone conversation that took place last week between Presidents Al-Jumayyil and Al-Asad. Sources said the discussion at this meeting will in particular tackle the need to put a final end to the tense security situation, implement measures to restore normal life, terminate all war-like activity, and resolve the government situation.

These sources did not rule out the possibility that the constituent body agreed upon at the Lausanne conference will be formed within 15 days if the Lebanese-Syrian talks are positive and produce quick results. The sources said President al-Jumayyil is currently preparing a political and security plan which will be presented at the summit meeting.

Al-Jumayyil Apprises Cabinet of Conference Results

NC031512 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Following a Cabinet meeting today, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan reaffirmed his position regarding his resignation and expressed the hope that President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil will form a new government very soon.

After the Cabinet meeting, which ended at 1500 today, a statement was issued explaining that President al-Jumayyil had apprised the Cabinet of the results of the Lausanne conference and Higher Political-Security Committee. The Cabinet accepted the resignation of Zahi al-Bustani, director general of Public Security, and appointed Jamil Ni'mah to take his place as acting director.

Al-Jumayyil Meets MEA Chairman Salam 3 April

NC031952 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] President al-Jumayyil today met with Salim Salam, chairman of the board of directors of Middle East Airlines [MEA] and made a comprehensive review of MEA's and the airport's situation. After the 1-hour meeting, Salam said:

President al-Jumayyil showed every understanding and response with regard to MEA's situation. I explained to the president the difficulties facing MEA as well as the situation of the airport in general. Salam added: The president demonstrated understanding and a positive response with regard to both helping MEA through all available means and expediting action to reopen the airport.

Speaker Asks Government To Inform Chamber on Security

NC041911 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Speaker of Parliament Mr Kamil al-As'ad has called on the government to present itself before the Chamber of Deputies to inform the latter on the (?preliminary) security measures and degree to which these provide for the division of Beirut into two. Mr Kamil al-As'ad said that if the government did not present itself, the Chamber could not call on the president to attend as head of the Higher Security Committee, as Parliament could not call the regime to task except through the government.

Lebanese Front Source Sees Coming 'Immobility'

NC040940 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] A source close to the Lebanese Front has been quoted as saying that the coming stage will be one of immobility and bring nothing worthwhile, and on the contrary, most matters will remain pending as far as the proposed political changes are concerned. The source added that the Front has decided to do nothing during this period, which he considers unsuitable for any conciliation. He considered that Syrian hegemony continues to prevail over what he termed the proposed changes, hence, we [the Lebanese Front] do not consider Lebanon an Arab country even though it exists in this environment and thus will not allow any change, he claimed.

This contention coincided in fact with the results of the yesterday's Cabinet meeting. It was expected that the Cabinet would cancel Decree No 10 which gave the [Lebanese] Army Command the right to recommend decisions [instinsab al-qarar] including the imposition of a state of emergency in the country. However, the outcome was completely contrary to what was expected and lead to the revival [ta'wim] of Al-Wazzan's government and not to the above-mentioned decree's cancellation.

During the intensive meetings — parts of which were attended by former Ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt, Haytham Jum'ah, Muhammad Baydun, in addition to Minister 'Adnan Muruwwah, Colonel 'Isam Abu Zaki, and Akram Shihayib — held in Nabih Birri's house and in his presence, the conferees dealt with recent developments, results of the Higher Political-Security Committee meetings, and results of the Cabinet meeting and security situation.

A source close to the conferees said there is some danger in the coming phase because the ruling team wants nothing but time in order to get by the Israeli and U.S. elections in the hope it can then put Lebanon in a sea of blood and give it new color. But let everyone know this course will not thwart the truth. Procrastination and prevarication are now allowed because the Lebanese people have had enough tribulations caused by these practices. The Lebanese are now due to get what is owed them and exit from this whirlpool whose price they paid with blood and money. The source added: We will acquaint all our allies with this intentional lukewarm atmosphere pursued by the regime aimed at thwarting all the resolutions, particularly those made at Lausanne. We will work together to end such practices.

On the revival [ta'wim] of Al-Wazzan's government, the source said this government appeared in true form quite a while ago, and all of its ambitions have been achieved and its role has become very clear. The surprise is that the decision contradicts the spirit of the Lausanne agreement. That Al-Wazzan agreed to continue with his cabinet did not surprise us because he has accustomed us to resigning and then retreating from his resignation more than once a day if his master ordered him. We are not judging him personally but judging his course for which everyone has paid a heavy price.

The source concluded by saying that what we want is to reach a formula acceptable to all and that gives equal rights and responsibilities.

Franjiyah News Conference on U.S. Policy, Events

NC041038 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0723 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] [Words indistinct] at this conference, [former] President Franjiyah spoke on the developments in the current situation on the Lebanese scene, and particularly over the heroic resistance against the occupation, the current security situation, and the Lausanne National Dialogue Conference.

[Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah began his conference, saying: National resistance operations have escalated this week in the south. Hardly a day passed before we heard of more than one heroic operation carried out by this honorable and courageous resistance against the occupying Israeli enemy. Naturally, the occupying enemy resorted to his customary, repressive, and bestial methods. He shelled the township of Jibshit and arrested its heroic residents. The enemy also isolated the south from the other Lebanese areas.

President Franjiyah added: I condemn and denounce these actions that the enemy has perpetrated against innocent people. I also salute the First Conference on Support for the Resistance which convened this week in Beirut. At the Lausanne conference, I suggested that the national resistance be supported by all Lebanese — officials and others. I also suggested that a statue be erected for the unknown resistance member — just as the world erects statues for the unknown soldier — in all Lebanese cities and villages to express the moral and loyal support that is required of all the Lebanese in this glorious resistance.

Glory for these heroes, because the road on which they are proceeding is the sole path leading to the homeland's liberation. While these actions take place in Lebanon, the same occurs in Jerusalem. They are heroic strugglers. Since the Israeli occupation of their holy land, they have not submitted to this occupation and fought it with stones against cannons and rifles. Yesterday, they carried out their heroic operations within Jerusalem itself. We find it strange, and denounce the repudiation of this noble action, which the international radios label as terrorist. Meanwhile, the official western world has remained silent over the actions that have taken place in Lebanon. These are not only terrorist actions, they are bestial. They were committed against the peaceful citizens.

President Franjiyah added: Glory for our Arab brothers, who stand their ground in the occupied territory. It is our hope that those exploiting the holy Palestinian cause will follow their example. Therefore, proceed to the occupied territory, O merchants! Have some human conscience, O protesters! You ignore aggression against a peaceful state like Lebanon, but denounce the heroic actions aimed at recovering the holy, usurped land.

Also at the beginning of his news conference, [former] President Franjiyah said: A regrettable and treacherous crime occurred this week in Furn ash-Shubbak. This was the assassination of four innocent people from the township of Ar-Rusayfah in Ad-Dinniyah. I strongly condemn and denounce this heinous crime whose horror has been made more acute by the fact it is also aimed at dealing a blow to the formula of fraternal existence among all Lebanese communities that is characteristic of the northern area in general, and the Ad-Dinniyah-Al-Muniyah area in particular.

Such ugly crimes — that are divorced from our heritage and ethics — solely benefit the Israeli enemy who, through terrorism and his agents, seeks to create a sectarian schism that would encourage evictions, partitioning, and settlement [tawtin] designs.

[Former] President Franjiyah added: God willing, they will be unable to carry out this design. Also, I offer my sincerest condolences to the relatives of the victims of the cherished Ad-Dinniyah-Al-Muniyah area. I invoke God Almighty to accept the four martyrs in the expanses of Paradise!

Still at the outset of the conference, President Franjiyah said: The Multinational Forces' mandate has ended this week. With the departure of the French soldiers, not one soldier of these forces remains on our land or sea.

The French were the first to come and last to leave. We appreciate this sentiment and interest which France constantly shows Lebanon. This is not surprising, because Lebanese-French friendship dates back many centuries and is built on strong and constant relations. The friendly state, France, has responded to the request we recently made to it. This is the dispatch of 40 observers to Lebanon. Now that these observers are in our land, we hope the state will be the first to publish the reports by these observers. In the event the state refuses to do so, we hope the French Embassy will do so, because in this way it will be known which side first violates the cease-fire after every cease-fire agreement. Thus, public opinion will know what is really happening in our land, and citizens will think with open minds not brainwashed by the official information media or certain private information media.

President Franjiyah continued: This week a governor of a U.S. State, who is of Syrian origin, visited Syria. The governor met with His Excellency President al-Asad. We hope this governor, Mr Atiyeh, will convey what he heard from the mouth of the preserver of Arab dignity [Hafiz in Arabic means preserver] when he told him that confidence in the United States does not exist. When President al-Asad speaks, everything he says is on behalf of every honorable Arab who is not subject to any foreign pressure.

On this occasion, I must note the new position taken by His Majesty King Husayn, who discovered — albeit late — that the United States does not see anything in this east except Israel.

President Franjiyah continued: Upon our return from Lausanne, we have been hearing daily about meetings between his excellency the president and representatives of some Lebanese groups. We hear about statements issued after every meeting. What we hope and insist upon is that agreement first be reached on a cease-fire and second on the withdrawal of the enemy from our sacred land. We can, if there is good will, implement the cease-fire. As for the withdrawal, we can also — if we posses a little courage — warn the United States and give it 1 month's time to induce Israel to fully withdraw from our territory including its intelligence and those subservient to it from Lebanon. If the United States rejects this request, President Franjiyah continued, we must break off diplomatic relations with it. If the United States protests that Israel does not heed its orders, we must test its credibility by asking it to sever its relations with Israel. Otherwise, the situation will remain as it is. Israel lives through the United States, and the United States does not reject any request in the Israel's interest.

Following this introduction which President Franjiyah used to open his news conference, the following dialogue took place between his excellency and newsmen.

The president was asked: Your Excellency, in light of the regime's efforts to achieve a cease-fire, is there an intention to agree on a truce, or are the conditions unsuitable for a truce?

President Franjiyah replied: I have said if there is good will among those responsible for the shooting, the cessation of this shooting should be implemented. If it is not implemented, those responsible for the fighters must withdraw the heavy weapons from them. The shooting will then stop, whether Israel is pleased or not. This is provided — and I repeat — there is good will among the officials.

He was asked: Your Excellency, there is again talk about the formation of a national unity government. Is it possible to form such a government, or is there an inclination to revive the present government and maintain it?

He replied: Let's be realistic. If a decision is taken to form a national unity government, is it possible that the north will not be represented in such a government. If the north is represented, I wonder how the representatives of the north in this government will be able to reach the Presidential Palace? A national unity government is extremely essential, but it can only be formed after the members of this government are assured free movement in Beirut, from Beirut to the Presidential Palace, or from all the areas to Beirut.

President Franjiyah was asked: Talk on the Lausanne conference results continues and is contradictory. Your Excellency, do you believe the specification of the points of difference and points of agreement among the dialogue parties would be a positive step resulting in moving to another stage of dialogue?

He replied: The dialogue in Lausanne — and I say this with deep regret — turned at some points to objectives other than those for which we went there. Our objectives were to stop the fighting. However, regrettably this has failed, and the withdrawal of the enemy — more regrettably — was not discussed. The conference featured only superficial discussion over internatl reforms. This is at a time when our sons and children are being killed on an almost daily basis in our land.

Question: Your Excellency, Mr President: How do you view the time that is passing, while the Lausanne results remain far from implementation?

He answered: I don't know what dialogue is presently going on with the committee formed after Lausanne. For that reason, I cannot assess the results of these meetings.

He was asked: There are those who now find President Franjiyah different from the Franjiyah who attended the Geneva conference and different from the post-Geneva Franjiyah. What are the constant political principles from which Your Excellency never departs in your actions and stance on the Lebanese crisis?

President Franjiyah answered: I will be even more frank than you as to what has been attributed to Sulayman Franjiyah. To my great regret, it has been said I have moved my rifle from my left shoulder to my right. It has been said I have left the Front to which I belong, and returned to the Lebanese Front. All these things are mere words. I went [to Lausanne] with a Lebanese conscience solely concerned with achieving Lebanon's interests, and I have returned from Lausanne with a clear conscience about what I have done and will do, so long as God Almighty endows me with strength to discharge my patriotic duty.

He was asked: Your Excellency, Mr President: Do you expect a wider coordination among the forces opposed to Israel and its agents — a coordination commensurate with the dangers of the post-Lausanne era? How will this coordination be effectuated?

President Franjiyah answered: I do not imagine that even one Lebanese who thinks in Lebanese terms does not oppose the Israeli presence — not only on Lebanese territory, but also in the Holy Land. Naturally this is excepting Israel's agents — and this is nothing new. In the world's history, and throughout the entire world, it is impossible not to find agents working for the enemy to their countries' detriment.

We now face a fierce enemy who knows no ethics in dealing with humanity. It is incumbent on us to work with all our power to rid ourselves of that enemy. It is regrettable that this enemy enjoys the backing of a superpower. The current phase is more serious than any time in the past, because this superpower is on the threshold of elections. Meanwhile, the Israeli-Zionist effect on turning the tide of the U.S. elections must not be underestimated.

He was asked: Your Excellency, Mr President: Some people are afraid lest the continuing present state of affairs and failure of the meeting and the dialogue lead to partitioning. How can this design be foiled, and how will it be possible to oppose the aims of certain quarters?

President Franjiyah answered: The scheme for partitioning, eviction, and cantons is nothing but a trial balloon primarily released by U.S. politicians through Israel's agents. A balloon is a balloon — it explodes as soon as it is touched. As long as the silent Lebanese majority rejects all these things being said, there should be no fear of partitioning, cantons, federation, confederation, or anything else.

He was asked: Your Excellency, Mr President: You have noted that what occurred in Lausanne can be rectified by way of submitting a joint paper on political reform. What are the most important principles on which you agree with the others?

He answered: The present situation is not agreeable to all the Lebanese — and this is [words indistinct]. I continue to adhere to the joint paper to which I subscribe and for which I will make sacrifices. It is the constitutional document, which includes several amendments that have arisen following the recent incidents in Lebanon.

He was also asked: Your Excellency, Mr President: Do you support the widening of UNIFIL's area of operations to include Beirut, particularly in view of the withdrawal of the U.S. Fleet that was stationed off the Lebanese coast and the fact that the Lebanese Army is still in its present condition?

President Franjiyah answered: I support the reinforcement of UNIFIL by increasing its numbers and giving it the authority to deploy on the Lebanese border to prevent any side from perpetrating attacks. However, when it comes to Beirut and the entire Lebanese territory — with the exception of the southern border — I accept no force other than an Arab force.

He was asked: Your Excellency, Mr President, do you expect further Israeli coercion and siege of the south and more suppressive actions to coincide with the formation of the southern army and Israeli elections?

President Franjiyah answered: I do not find any action taken by the hostile state surprising. This is because this state is our enemy, or it has accustomed us to taking criminal and unethical actions. We know what Israel harbors for our country which, regrettably, is weak.

He was asked: Your Excellency, Mr President: Do you expect an Israeli war against sisterly Syria and Lebanese territory, and will this war alter the balance of power in the area?

He answered: I hope this war will not be too far off. This is because in the past Sharon threatened that Damascus is within the range of his artillery. Sisterly Syria — God be praised — now rightly claims that Tel Aviv is not out of the range of its bombs. For this reason, and now that sisterly Syria has received the weapons it has received, Sharon is out of the limelight, and we no longer hear his quixotic statements.

He was asked: Mr President, some people are attempting to obliterate the link of unity and coexistence in the north. What are the means for depriving those who fish in troubled water of their chance?

He answered: In its present condition, and thanks to the cohesion of its sons, the north is a thorn in the side of the mongers of sectarianism. With all our power, and through agreement with His Excellency [former] Prime Minister Karami, and with all the northern leaderships, we will seek to keep the north as a thorn in the side of Lebanon's enemies and their agents.

He was asked: Some people expect a Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting in the near future. In Your Excellency's opinion, will such a summit foster the stabilization of the cease-fire?

He answered: Whether it helps or not, I bless every Lebanese-Syrian meeting and negotiation, or every Lebanese-Arab negotiation. because it would be impossible for Lebanon to live should it drift away from its Arab brothers, particularly from neighborly and sisterly Syria. God Almighty has recommended good neighborliness. As the Lebanese saying goes: A close neighbor is better than a remote brother. On this premise, I hope and insist that Lebanon's relations with sisterly Syria become fraternal relations — in actions, not words. I also hope Lebanon's relations with all Arab states become brotherly ones, and not just by words.

Finally, he was asked: Mr President: Today the representative of His Beatitude Patriarch Khuraysh visted you. What were the most important subjects discussed at your meeting?

President Franjiyah answered: The visit of His Eminence Bishop Sfayr was for the sole purpose of conveying congratulations from His Beatitude Cardinal Khuraysh on our safe return. Thanks to his beatitude for the good sentiment shown toward us at all times.

Birri on Forces Disengagement, South

NC031850 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri stated that progress has been made regarding the disengagement of forces and that the maps that have been drafted for this purpose and which involve the positions from Suq al-Gharb to Beirut's southern suburb up to the [Beirut] port indicates that 75 percent progress has been achieved. He revealed the Cabinet will discuss the question of having national servicemen join the Internal Security Forces in order to reinforce them and enable them to carry out the task of disengaging forces alongside the observers. Nabih Birri said the authorities are disregarding the question of reopening the airport and port [of Beirut] under the pretext of the existence of problems, whereas their real objective is to continue to impose taxes and fees and use the illegal harbors extending from the fifth quay [at Beirut Port] up to Ad-Dubayyah, where two ships unloaded their weapons cargo last week.

Discussing the situation in the south, Birri held the authorities responsible for what is happening there, emphasizing that the state has thus far been dealing with this situation with unjustifiable timidity. In a press statement, Birri said no clear and frank attitude has thus far been taken by the authorities regarding the closure of the [Beirut-Sidon] coastal road.

U.S. Embassy Guards Fire at Floating Objects

NC031551 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1535 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] A security source has reported that U.S. Embassy guards in the 'Ayn al-Muraysah area today between 1400 and 1600 opened heavy machine gun fire at objects floating in the sea opposite the U.S. Embassy.

RFL: Objects Exercise Targets

NC031602 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1548 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] A security report says U.S. Embassy guards in 'Ayn al-Muraysah opened heavy machine gun fire this afternoon between 1400 and 1600 at floating targets in the sea opposite the U.S. Embassy. A security source said the Marines are carrying out training exercises within the embassy perimeter.

ISF Reportedly Withdraws From Al-Barbir Positions

Security Committee Discusses Situation

NC040847 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Amal and Socialist gunmen have deployed from Al-Barbir to the depth of Corniche al-Mazra'ah. They set up fixed and mobile barriers all along the line. They deployed military vehicles equipped with medium- and heavy-caliber machine guns. The deployment came when the Internal Security Forces were forced to withdraw from the Al-Barbir area following the sudden appearance of gunmen in the area. Intensive contacts are now going on among all parties concerned at the level of the four-member Security Committee and Military Subcommittee in order to force the gunmen to withdraw and return [the control of] the Al-Barbir area to the Internal Security Forces.

PSP, Amal Replace ISF

NC041057 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] In confirmation of the credibility of a commitment to national security and forcing others to adhere to it, and following the withdrawal of the Internal Security Forces from the Al-Barbir barrier, and out of concern for the security of the area residents and area, a joint force from the Progressive Socialist Party and Amal Movement has replaced the Internal Security Forces. It is recalled that the security forces' barrier was withdrawn because several public security employees disobeyed the instructions posted on the barrier — particularly inasmuch as it has become certain that explosions and acts detrimental to security have been planned and perpetrated by members of this [public security] apparatus. We have learned that contacts are underway to tackle this issue in a manner that will ensure the barrier's effectiveness and respect for it when it is restored.

Sources Deny ISF Withdrawal

NC041030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Security sources have denied that the Internal Security Forces stationed in the Al-Barbir area have withdrawn from their positions. The sources added that although problems did take place there, the four-member security committee and its operations staff quickly resolved them, and the situation has returned to normal.

The Museum-Al-Barbir Road between the two sectors of Beirut is now witnessing heavy traffic, while guarded calm prevails on the axes that witnessed clashes last night.

Continuing Reportage on Security Developments

PSP On Clashes 3 April

NC031418 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Our correspondent has reported that the Phalangist militias and ruling family's army attempted to advance on the city center axis in Beirut, but were repulsed by the nationalist forces. Moreover, violent clashes continue to rage on this axis.

We have also received a report indicating that the areas of As-Sana'i', Clemenceau, and Al-Hamra are coming under random artillery shelling. All of this is taking place despite the fact that agreement was reached to cease fire at 1500.

Furthermore, the axis of Dahr al-Wahsh is coming under bursts of artillery fire. Ra's al-Jabal is also being subjected to sporadic bursts of fire.

Residential Quarters, Army Shelled

NC032046 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The residential quarters in Bsaba have been hit by 106-mm artillery fire and rocket shells, directed from the socialist positions in Al-Ma'rufiyah, since 2120. Meanwhile, Army positions in 'Aytat and Suq al-Gharb are coming under mortar fire from 'Alayh, Baysur, and the outskirts of 'Aytat. The Army did not return fire.

The [Army's] forward positions have monitored suspicious vehicular movements in 'Alayh and along Al-Ghabun-Baysur Road.

Bulldozers are erecting fortifications opposite the Army's positions in Hayy al-Amirikan on the southern suburb axes and on some of the commerical markets axes, where the dirt barriers in some positions are being removed. Contacts are being held to stop these cease-fire violations.

'Guarded Calm' Following Clashes

NC040625 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Clashes have been taking place on the contact lines daily. The clashes that took place yesterday covered all combat axes in Beirut, the southern suburb, and mountain. The security deterioration continued until early this morning. Shells fell in areas far from the combat axes. Guarded calm now prevails on these axes, interspersed by intermittent sniper fire.

'Disciples of Prophet' Warn Amal Movement

NC031918 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The organization, Disciples of the Prophet, has warned the Amal Movement and more particularly Nabih Birri against any attempt directed against the military officials or members of the organization in West Beirut. The warning had come after the seizure by Amal of one of the officials of the Disciples of the Prophet — a certain Ahmad Mahmud.

Minister Raises Issue of Israeli Excavations

NC031437 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] In a letter addressed today to the Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Ministry, Tourism Minister Ibrahim Halawah has requested that the Foreign Ministry take up the issue of the current Israeli excavations in the Tyre area and its looting of certain archeological finds with international organizations and world committees, and urge them to act to protect Tyre's archeology.

'Tension' in South; Tyre General Strike Planned

NC040835 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] No information is available on the situation in the south in view of the quarantine the Israeli enemy forces have imposed on the area. Residents of the south are living in a state of anxiety and fear regarding the continuation of their isolation from the rest of the Lebaense areas. The residents are expressing their indignation and denunciation over the arbitrary repressive measures that the Israeli occupation forces are carrying out against them.

Today Tyre will witness a general strike called by popular and labor organizations to protest what has taken place and is taking place in the city and rest of the Lebanese areas. A statement issued in this respect threatened to call for an unlimited strike.

Tension is prevailing in most southern towns and villages, and the heroic operations carried out by the national resistence men against the enemy forces are intensifying daily. The operations which took place yesterday, and were primarily concentrated in Sidon and an-Nabatiyah, wounded more than 15 Israeli soldiers.

Seven Israeli Soldiers Wounded in Attack

NC031416 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] An enemy Israeli troop carrier was hit by a rocket in An-Nabatiyah this morning, as a result of which seven occupation soliders were wounded and the troop carrier burned. The Israeli forces immediately surrounded the area and initiated a search operation.

Resistance Fighters Attack Israeli Vehicle

NC041105 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Resistance operations against the Israeli enemy are continuing in the south. The Lebanese national resistance forces early this morning carried out an operation on the Ghassaniyah-(Al-Kawsariyah) Road in the south. A vehicle was burned and enemy soldiers in it were killed and wounded. A crane was seen towing the burned vehicle on the An-Nabatiyah Road near Zifta. The occupation forces surrounded Martyrs Square at the beginning of 'Ayn al-Hulwah Road this morning and bulldozed the walls around the groves and searched the houses following the operation that took place yesterday in the area. The Israeli Forces yesterday set up checkpoints at the approaches of 'Ayn al-Hulwah in Sidon and opened fire on a civilian vehicle, wounding two of its passengers.

Since this morning, the occupation forces have set up checkpoints and deployed numerous patrols on the Az-Zahrani-An-Nabatiyah Road. The enemy forces also surrounded Al-Mujaydil and arrested Haydar Hasan Salamah.

Long Time Resident Aliens To Get Citizenship

GF031400 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 2 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] *AL-QABAS* has learned that the parties to the Lebanese dialogue who met recently in Lausanne have agreed to bestow citizenship on a large number of residents who have resided in Lebanon for a long time, including the Arabs of Wadi Khalid, the Palestinians who did not take part in Lebanon's events and who have been living there for more than 25 years, in addition to Armenians and Kurds, provided that their children benefit from the Lebanese citizenship later on.

Continued Reportage on Spanish Foreign Minister's Visit

Meets Khaddam

JN031435 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1000 today, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran. Talks during the meeting revolved around the situation in the Middle East and bilateral relations.

Talks With Assembly Speaker

JN031521 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 3 Apr (SANA) — People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi received Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Fernando Moran and his delegation today in the presence of the Spanish ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting, they discussed existing bilateral relations and the means of promoting them, especially in the parliamentary field. They also discussed current Arab and international issues, as well as issues of common interest. Moran expressed his appreciation for and admiration of Syria's progressive policy in all fields, led by President Hafiz al-Asad.

Moran also stressed his country's support for the just Arab causes, especially the Palestine question, pointing out what Spain and the European countries can do to solve the Middle East problem. Az-Zu'bi also touched on the developments in the Arab region, and Syria's pan-Arab position toward those developments. He also mentioned the parliamentary relations between Syria and Spain, stressing the need to strengthen and develop them in the service of the two friendly countries and peoples.

Meets PNC Speaker

JN031941 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus 3 Apr (SANA) — Spain has reaffirmed its firm and principled stand in support of the PLO and the Palestinian people in their just struggle to achieve their legitimate rights to self-determination and establishing their independent state on their national soil.

This emphasis was made by Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran during his meeting today with PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum. During this meeting, they reviewed the situation in the Palestinian arena and the developments in the Middle East.

Meets With Al-Asad, Ash-Shar'

JN031904 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] At 1830 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran. Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' and Spanish Ambassador in Damascus Felipe de la Morena y Calvet attended the meeting. Moran conveyed to the president a message of friendship and greetings from King Juan Carlos and another message from the Spanish prime minister, which expressed his government's support for the Arab cause, and concern about adopting a policy of rapprochement with Syria and the Arab countries.

The president expressed his gratitude and his high appreciation for both messages and their contents. He asked the Spanish foreign minister to convey his greetings to King Juan Carlos and the Spanish prime minister.

The talks revolved around relations between Syria and Spain. Both sides asserted the mutual desire to strengthen these relations. The talks also dealt with the situation in the Middle East and Europe. Fernando Moran asserted Spain's concern about supporting the just Arab causes. The president expressed Syria's appreciation for this stand.

Departure Statement

JN032028 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1950 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 3 Apr (SAN) — Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Fernando Moran and his delegation left Damascus this evening after a 2-day visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', a number of the heads of Foreign Ministry departments, the Syrian ambassador to Spain, the Spanish ambassador in Damascus, and the Spanish embassy staff.

In a statement to SANA, Dr Moran said: I had the honor to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad. He added: I conveyed to his excellency greetings from Spain's king and from the Spanish prime minister as well as the Spanish people's deep appreciation of the Syrian people. He also pointed out that his visit was fruitful, and that it would contribute to promoting relations between Syria and Spain. He also said: Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' and I have drawn up foundations for cooperation between the two countries. Concluding his statement, Dr Moran expressed his deep thanks to the Syrian officials for the warm reception he and his delegation received.

PDRY Foreign Minister Meets With Officials

Khaddam Sees Ad-Dali, UN's Urquhart

JN021426 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, PDRY minister of foreign affairs, in Damascus at 1230 today. Talks during the meeting revolved around the situation in the region and issues of common interest.

Khaddam also received Assistant UN Secretary General Brian Urquhart here this morning. During the meeting, they discussed the situation in the region and the UN secretary general's efforts to activate the role of the international organization.

Ash-Shar' Receives Ad-Dali

JN031254 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus —Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' today met with PDRY Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali. The PDRY ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. During the meeting, the talks dealt with the recent political developments in the region and the situation in the Lebanese arena.

Ad-Dali Departs

JN032013 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus — PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali left Damascus this afternoon after a two-day visit to Syria during which he met with Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar'. He was seen off at Damascus Airport by the under secretary of foreign affairs, the assistant chief of protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the PDRY ambassador in Damascus, and the embassy staff.

Al-Ahmar Addresses Iraqi Community Party Rally

JN301040 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0750 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 30 Mar (SANA) — The Iraqi Communist Party held a speech rally in Damascus yesterday on its 50th anniversary. The rally was attended by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant Ba'th Party secretary general; a number of Ba'th Party National Command members; representatives of the Ba'th Party regional commands in Palestine, Jordan, and Iraq; and representatives of the Arab communist parties as well as of the Lebanese, Jordanian, and Iraqi national movements and the Palestinian resistance.

Comrade al-Ahmar made a speech at the rally in which he said: The Iraqi Communist Party and its brother parties have been struggling for 50 years to realize a bright future for both the Iraqi and the Arab people, and to achieve joint aims that express the Arab masses' aspirations and desire to eliminate exploitation and backwardness as well as the reactionary, fascist, and reactionary regimes. Al-Ahmar pointed out that these aims represent the struggles of both the Iraqi Communist Party and the Ba'th Party throughout the Arab world as well as those of the communist, democratic, and workers parties in the region.

Al-Ahmar asserted that the Iraqi-Iranian war serves only the interests of the imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary forces, and that it is exhausting the resources of the Iraqi people and the strength of the Iranian revolution.

In conclusion, Al-Ahmar saluted the factions of the Iraqi Arab revolution, affirming support for them and for their struggle in order to emerge victorious and establish a democratic regime in Iraq.

Comrade Yusuf Faysal, assistant secretary general of the Iraqi Communist Party, also made a speech. He asserted that Syria is a symbol of the heroic forces that fight imperialism, Zionism, and reactionaryism, and that it supports the Iraqi strugglers in toppling Saddam Husayn's dictatorial regime.

Comrade George Batal made a speech on behalf of the Lebanese Communist Party in which he conveyed greetings from the Lebanese national resistance. He affirmed the Lebanese people have realized victories, thanks to the historic stand of Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad.

Speeches on behalf of the Palestinian revolution and the Iraqi Democratic Front were made at the rally. A poem by the Arab poet Mahdi al-Jawahiri was also read in the rally.

At the conclusion of the rally, Comrade Zaki Khayri, member of the Iraqi Communist Party Political Bureau, made a speech in which he reviewed the party's struggle in Iraq. He denounced the Iraqi-Iranian war and stressed the need to end it. He demanded that the fascist Saddam Husayn's regime, which is responsible for this war, be toppled.

AL-HADAF:Follow Up Committee on Lebanon Set Up

GF311434 Kuwait AL-HADAF in Arabic 31 Mar 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report]

[Text] *AL-HADAF* has learned that Damascus has formed a Syrian committee to follow up on Lebanese political and security issues. The committee is headed by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. It also includes a number of senior Syrian Army officers, including Colonel Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian intelligence in Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon, and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar'.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has asked the abovementioned committee to make all the necessary contacts with Lebanon to enhance cooperation and remove all obstacles obstructing the establishment of security or the implementation of the Lausanne conference resolutions.

AL-HADAF has also learned that one of the committee members will visit Beirut next week to discuss the means of preserving security,opening roads and removing barricades with leaders of Lebanese parties.

Khaddam met with the committee members 2 days ago and acquainted them with the Lausanne conference's outcome and the steps which should be taken to help the Lebanese Government meet this crisis and regain control of greater Beruit and to create the favorable atmosphere for Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

Dailies on Israeli 'Threats,' U.S. Fleet Movement

JN040831 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Press review]

[Text] Today's press commentaries deal with the new U.S.-Zionist move. In a commentary on its front page under the caption "The U.S.-Zionist Aggression and Its New Signs," the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* says: At a time when the parties concerned with the Lebanese crisis are exerting efforts via the Higher Security Committee to fix the cease-fire and turn it into a permanent truce, and at a time when great optimism prevailed in the Lebanese arena over the anticipated adoption of a stand that will enable all sides to work together away from violence, killing, and destruction for the sake of rebuilding the future Lebanon, some sides pushed from outside began to increase tension in an attempt to prevent any agreement to end fratricide. These sides were encouraged by the new U.S. stand embodied in U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' statement that the U.S. forces will remain in the region, that is, in Lebanese territorial waters. Twenty-four hours after this pronouncement, the Pentagon announced officially yesterday that a group of U.S. vessels headed by the aircraft carrier *Saratoga* had left their base in Virginia for the Mediterranean to replace the vessels Reagan decided to withdraw a few days ago. It has also been decided to back this new group with another group of U.S. warships within a week.

AL-BA'TH continues: This new U.S. trend coincided with the Zionist enemy leaders' threats against Syria. Their war minister Arens said verbatim: Syria is preparing to launch a war of attrition against Israel. However, Israel cannot tolerate this, and will prompt us to use other methods and means. This is what the Zionist minister said. Other enemy leaders said that Lebanon is the source of trouble for Israel. Thus, new developments might occur. It is true that these developments are difficult to specify, but some U.S. and Israeli signs indicate that Washington and Tel Aviv still believe the Lebanese arena is the proper place for any joint action against Syria and the Lebanese masses.

The official Israeli announcement on joint U.S.-Israeli military exercises in occupied Palestine this month is but an obvious indication of a hostile military action in the region aimed at mitigating the Arab victory in Lebanon represented by the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, that is if it is impossible to destroy this victory altogether.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: Hence, when Syria calls on all the Lebanese sides to work quickly in order to fix the cease- fire and then embark on discussing what is important to reach a unanimous agreement guaranteeing the fraternal country's unity of territory and people, it does so out of its strong desire to end the Lebanese crisis and subsequently give no opportunity to the enemies of Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation. The subjects of fixing the Lebanese cease-fire and ensuring the security of the citizen and the stability of the homeland are supposed to be given priority now because the enemies of Lebanon, particularly the Americans and the Israelis, are wagering on the failure of the Lebanese sides to reach radical solutions to the issue of the citizens' security and the homeland's stability.

We in Syria are fully convinced that once the Lebanese sides put aside some minor issues, they will not only be able to fix the cease-fire and security, but also to rebuild the aspired future Lebanon, confront the Zionist invaders and expel them from the Lebanese territory, and confront any new U.S. move aimed at harming Lebanon and its national, pan-Arab decision.

The newspaper *TISHRIN* emphasizes Syria was not surprised by the statements of Shamir and Arens. It expects more outbidding by the Israeli circles in the midst of their feverish election campaign and their attempts to spread the atmosphere of war in the region, and even to explode the security situation. Under the headline "We Will Reply to All Threats," *TISHRIN* writes: Syria knows that the enemy leaders will not hesitate to embark on any foolish step such as launching war against it if the Lebanese nationalist resistance men tighten their grip on the invaders in the south or if the Palestinian resistance men succeed in carrying out another daring operation like that in Jerusalem. However, Syria is capable of deterring the enemy and teaching it an unforgettable lesson.

Syria confronted its Israeli enemy in the October war and proved it was capable of more than a test. It also confronted this enemy on the territory of fraternal Lebanon and foiled its military plans and political, strategic objectives through the battles the Syrian forces waged there and through the abrogation of the 17 May agreement.

TISHRIN adds: The enemy leaders probably know quite well that we do not exaggerate facts when we say that it was Syria that defeated the U.S. strategy in the Arab region, and that Syria's steadfastness and unlimited political ability were the reasons which foiled the 17 May agreement, forced the Marines to withdraw from Lebanon, and placed the new facts before the United States in the region. Did Shultz not admit this the day before yesterday?

The enemy leaders must fully realize and well understand that Syria will not be below the level of replying to their hostile challenges. It will never allow them to turn its national and pan-Arab security into a field for their competition for the seats of power. Syria is strong with its people, Armed Forces, national unity, and through its masses' support for their struggling leadership and President Hafiz al-Asad.

Concluding, the paper says: Syria will remain as ever before the center of struggle and sacrifice as well as the rock on which the aggressors' aggression founders. It is now stronger and more determined than ever before. Will its enemies understand the lesson and conclude facts before the test comes?

Youth Organizations Condemn Jordanian Regime

JN032033 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1915 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Arab democratic and nationalist youth and student organizations in Syria have condemned the oppressive measures the Jordanian regime is taking against the strugglers of the Jordanian nationalist movement and the Palestinian resistance. They also condemned the regime's continuing arrests of these strugglers.

In a statement issued in Damascus today, the organizations appealed to all nationalists, noble persons, and believers in human rights to demand the release of the nationalist prisoners detained in the Jordanian regime's jails. The statement noted these prisoners had been on a hunger strike for a long time. The statement explained the policy of oppression, terrorism, and arrest to which our Jordanian people are being subjected has been adopted because they reject the proposed U.S. plans, including the Reagan plan.

Israel Begins Digging Mediterranean-Dead Sea Canal

JN020725 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Occupied Arab territories —Reports received from occupied Palestine say that the Zionist enemy authorities have started digging a canal between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea in the occupied territories.

The reports add that the Zionist enemy aims at using this canal, to be completed in 2 years, as a barrier separating the occupied territories from the Arab homeland.

Shamir on Terrorist Attack, Relations With Egypt

TA032129 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2108 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Jerusalem, 3 Apr (ITIM) — Our capital, Jerusalem, recently got a taste of the real meaning of the terrorist PLO struggle Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated this evening in a speech at a Hebrew University Board of Trustees meeting that took place in the Weiss Auditorium on the university campus in Giv'at Ram.

The prime minister referred to the murderous terrorist attack that took place in the heart of Jerusalem yesterday. He said that it was no accident that these terrorists chose Jerusalem to carry out their actions. For dozens of years they have been trying to shatter the devotion of the Jewish people to its eternal capital, the reunited city of Jerusalem. Mr Shamir said that the terrorists have always failed and no power on the face of the earth would be able to shatter the living reality of Jerusalem as the heart of Israel and of the Jewish people. It will continue to be our capital forever, with or without foreign embassies.

Mr Shamir's remarks were received with a standing ovation by the Board of Trustees, who came from all over the world, and by guests who were invited to the festive opening session.

Referring to Lebanon, the prime minister noted that due to its internal weaknesses this country has become an easy prey for terrorist and fanatic forces, initially for the PLO terrorists and later for Syria. Mr Shamir pointed out that violence resembling Khomeyni's religious terrorism had recently also invaded Lebanon.

The prime minister noted that Damascus has now become a center of terrorism and it has been allocating large economic rsources to equip its army with the most sophisticated weapons.

In view of this, Israel has been trying to maintain and strengthen peace with Egypt. The Egyptians, however, have frozen normalization and their relations with Israel and the Egyptian media constantly attack the State of Israel. Mr Shamir emphasized that the most serious aspect is Egypt's courting of the PLO and its overt attempts to shake loose of the Camp David accords.

"I reiterate my call to the Egyptian leaders to resume the dialogue with Israel and to return to the joint political process for the sake of peace," Mr Shamir stated.

Arens Warns Syria Against 'War of Attrition'

TA031746 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal on interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens with latter's remarks recorded]

[Text] [Tal] The defense minister today toured the eastern sector in Lebanon. We met with him in an IDF position overlooking As-Sultan Ya'qub. Moshe Arens said: Israel will not be dragged into a war of attrition and the Syrians know this.

[Arens] I think it is well known that we do not like wars of attrition and that we will not accept such a war. We have said this several times, and I think the Syrians know this. We will not accept a war of attrition. If they attempt such a war, they must be ready for any reaction by us.

[Tal] According to the defense minister, the terrorists do not do anything without the Syrians' knowledge, and this applies to all the areas the Syrians control. This is a regime that uses all means — legitimate and illegitimate — to rule.

[Arens] We have known for a long time that nothing is being done from Syrian territory without the Syrians' approval or, to be more precise, nothing that they do not approve of can be done. So, if a terrorist attack originates from Syrian-controlled areas, the Syrians know about it and are able (?to stop it).

[Tal] The defense minister said: It is difficult to understand the Syrians' motives and the reason they allow the terrorists to operate. The message Israel sent via the Artillery Corps 2 days ago has been received, the defense minister said. We now have to wait and see whether the Syrians act accordingly.

[Arens] After all, we have had a lot of experience with the Syrians. We know that terrorists had operated in the so-called Fatahland prior to the Peace for Galilee operation under the Syrian umbrella. At that time, the Syrians regarded this as in their own interest. The Syrians may think that if they allow or encourage terrorists to operate against us from areas under their control we will simply pack up and leave and they will advance toward Metulla.

[Tal] Those were the defense minister's remarks about the Syrians in the eastern sector of the Al-Biqa'. Referring to the terrorist attack in Jerusalem, the defense minister said today: The reaction of the civilians was correct and I do not think that this reaction will encourage terrorists to repeat such an operation. He added: We are in the midst of a campaign against terrorism and we must be well prepared for this war in the future.

'All Four' Border Crossings With Lebanon Closed

TA031638 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] All four border crossing points between Israel and Lebanon on the Al-Awwali River line and on the international border were closed today. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the security forces are preparing to tighten security arrangements at the crossing points. Today only people with special permits were allowed to cross and hundreds of Lebanese who did not have such permits were forced to turn back. A long line of Lebanese trucks was also formed at the crossing point east of Jazzin, after they were stopped from entering the territory under IDF control.

It is known that two of the terrorists who carried out the murderous attack in Jerusalem were residents of Sidon. All the squad members entered Israel at the end of last week via the border crossing point at Rosh Haniqra.

Moda'i Suggests Isolation of Southern Lebanon

TA031541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i suggests that southern Lebanon be cut off either from Israel or from the rest of Lebanon. According to him, in the wake of the terrorist attack in Jerusalem yesterday, a decision should now be made about what kind of policy to adopt with regard to southern Lebanon. Minister Moda'i believes that we should try to reduce the number of inhabitants in the areas controlled by Israel to enable the security forces to maintain better control. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Minister Moda'i was speaking at a Liberal Party rally.

Arab Media Reaction to Jerusalem 'Crime' Criticized

JN032002 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 3 Apr 84

["Observation" by Sadoq Ben Me'ir]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, Arab media have rejoiced over the brutal crime that was prepetrated in Jerusalem yesterday. These media did not heed the fact that the three terrorists were captured immediately, that one of them died of his wounds, and that they did not achieve their objectives. What these media were concerned about was freeing their imagination and glorifying false heroism. These media rejoiced in a crime the civilized world condemned because it was perpetrated indiscriminately against women, children, and old people. These media are encouraging such operations, from which the Arab world is still suffering.

The Jordanian papers rejoiced in what they described as the big commando operation or the suicidal operation within the framework of suicidal resistance. Some of these papers linked this operation to certain U.S. stands. They also attacked Israel with much hatred. While these papers take such an attitude, they seem to have forgotten that Jordan has been and still is a target of terrorist acts, which are being committed against Jordanian figures both inside and outside Jordan. Explosive charges have gone off in public places in Jordan. The most recent took place last week prior to Queen Elizabeth's visit to Amman. These papers are hailing the terrorists, who are like those who are wreaking havoc in Jordan and continuously threatening the Jordanian regime.

Whoever reads the Syrian papers today will easily see the source of the threats. Damascus *AL-BA'TH*, organ of the Syrian regime, considered yesterday's operation the beginning ofa necessary effort to counter the defeatist attitudes of the Arab moderates. The paper condemned those whom it called advocates of independent decisionmaking, because they interpret this independent decisionmaking to mean replacing armed struggle with various types of negotiation and delegation. It also said that the Jerusalem operation was a raid on the liquidation attempts being made by the midgets allied with the United States and Israel.

Who are the Arab moderates being attacked by Damascus, if Jordan is not one of them? And who are those who are seeking negotiation and designation, if they are not King Husayn, Yasir 'Arafat, and their followers? As for those midgets who are allies of the United States and Israel, there is no need to identify them. It is worth noting that those who attributed this operation to them and who competed to score a great success with it are in Syria and are clinging to the Syrian regime. They have the same nature as those who have perpetrated and are still perpetrating terrorist acts, not only against Jordan but also against Egypt, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, and all those which *AL-BA'TH* calls Arab moderates. They have also perpetrated similar acts against the Palestinian people since the beginning of their cause.

Thus, those who use terrorism to carry out destructive acts against Israel are actually inviting others to carry out similar acts against them. Terrorism is indivisible, no matter where it is perpetrated and no matter which party it is directed against.

Syrian Support for Terrorist Activities Stressed

HATZOFE Editorial

TA031140 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 3 Apr 84 p 2

[Second editorial: "The Syrians Have Loosened the Reins"]

[Text] The terrorist attacks against IDF soldiers from the Syrian lines in Lebanon, which have been stepped up in the last few days are manifested in sabotage activities and shooting at IDF outposts, are not accidental. The Syrians have control over the terrorists when they so desire. They forbid the terrorists from heating up certain fronts, such as the Golan Heights, because this contradicts Syrian interests, but it appears that this time they have decided to loosen the rein to force the IDF to withdraw from southern Lebanon.

This should be seen as a Syrian method. This is what they did in the Ash-Shuf mountains, when they heated up the front and incited the Druze against the Christians up until the time that the IDF left the Ash-Shuf mountains. They would like to repeat this success in southern Lebanon.

The IDF answered by attacking terrorist commands, to indicate that firing incidents could not be one-way. Yet the terrorists in Lebanon are presently subordinate to the Syrians. Most of them belong to organizations that have accepted Syrian patronage after Yasir 'Arafat was expelled from Tripoli and his units left Lebanon.

If the Syrians want to cause tension on that front, and make it a battlefront, the IDF will have something to say to them. The Syrians will not be able to hide behind the terrorist organizations, on the claim that they have no control, because we know that they do have supervisory capability over them. The terrorists in the areas where Syrian outposts are located are only allowed to operate with Syrian permission. Perhaps it is necessary to send another warning to the Syrians against this adventurous activity, and to tell them that what was good for the Ash-Shuf mountains is not necessarily good for southern Lebanon. This strategy of harassing the IDF is not always effective in bringing about an IDF pullback from Lebanon.

The increased incidence of attacks in southern Lebanon is part of the Syrian policy of causing the IDF to suffer losses to pressure the Israeli public to demand a withdrawal from Lebanon. This Syrian policy should be comprehended and not exploited for a domestic partisan clash, because this is the goal Syria is aiming for. It is not inconceivable that advancing the Knesset election date led Syria to increase tension to cause internal tension in Israel.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT Editorial

TA040937 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 4 Apr 84

[From the review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* writes that the terrorist attack on the heart of Jerusalem has turned attention away from the events which preceded it in Lebanon's eastern sector. It is true that the Syrian Army did not take part in the incidents, but there is no doubt that the terrorists would not have dared to act without the encouragement of Damascus. Israel has announced again and again its willingness to withdraw from Lebanon. However, the newspaper believes that Israel must not be forced into a withdrawal which would bring the Syrian guns and the terrorists' Katyushas closer to the Galilee.

Jerusalem Arabic on Syrian Internal Dispute

JN032011 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 3 Apr 84

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] Reports from the Syrian capital say that Damascus has recently witnessed intensive military activity and some armed military clashes. Political observers attribute this to the dispute over authority in Syria. The details are included in the following report by Ya'qub Qassab.

[Begin recording] In a report from Paris, the Lebanese newspaper *AL-'AMAL* has said that the French Ministry of External Relations received a report on 27 March about unusual military activity in the Syrian capital on 26 and 27 March. The Lebanese newspaper added that there was unusual activity in Damascus. Political observers also asserted that in light of medical reports on Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's deteriorating health, the Army has reportedly moved in the Syrian capital. Some armed military clashes also took place. It seems that these chashes are due to the dispute over authority between Rif'at al-Asad, the president's brother, on one hand, and high-ranking elements in the government, including Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Hikmat ash-Shihabi, chief of Military Intelligence 'Ali Duba, and Chief of Air Force Intelligence Major General Muhammad al-Khuli on the other.

The Egyptian publication *MAY* also confirmed these reports, and quoted knowledgeable western sources as saying that all the recent changes and appointments would ultimately be in the interest of Rif'at al-Asad, the Syrian president's brother. Due to his position as a vice president for security and defense affairs, Rif'at al-Asad will in the end be able to appoint men from the Syrian army units and Syrian security organs who are known for their loyalty to him. The Egyptian newspaper has confirmed that President al-Asad skillfully made the changes in order to enable his brother Rif'at to reorganize Syria's political and security institutions. [end recording]

Knesset Committee on Election Provisions

TA031236 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Knesset Constitution, Law, and Justice Committee has agreed that Knesset lists can be submitted up to 50 days before the elections. Hitherto it was possible to submit such lists only 35 days prior to election date.

The committee has further agreed to abbreviate the period of time public officials must wait, after resigning from office, before they can run for elections. This period has now been cut from 100 days to 65. Also, all citizens who will be 18 years of age on election day will be entitled to vote.

Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that the committee has not completed its discussions on matters pertaining to election campaigning, and will hold a special discussion on this issue. Tomorrow the Knesset will meet in order to discuss bills on dissolving the Knesset and holding elections on July 23d.

Further on Deliberations

TA031455 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The Knesset Constitution, Law, and Justice Committee has decided that each new Knesset list must make a 500,000 shekel deposit, as opposed to the 20,000 shekels required in previous elections, and must collect the signatures of 2,500 supporters, as opposed to the previous 1,500. The elections law will be submitted to the Knesset tomorrow for its three readings. The signatures of the Alignment Knesset members who initiated the law will be joined by those of MK's Milo, Nof, Kulas, Kohen and Ben-Me'ir of the coalition.

Former MK Flatto-Sharon To Run for Knesset

TA031646 Tel Aviv IDF Radio In Hebrew 1505 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Shmu'el Flatto-Sharon, a former Knesset member who is awaiting the High Court's verdict regarding the election bribery scandal, will establish a list to run in the upcoming election. His list will include four or five candidates and his platform will mainly deal with matters related to welfare and economic hardship.

President Herzog Returns From UK Visit

TA040710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Israel's President Hayim Herzog has returned from a 6-day visit to Britain. During his trip he met with the queen and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Upon arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport, the president said all sides he has come in contact with in Britain expressed condolences for the Jerusalem terrorist attack.

POST Criticizes Role of U.S. Consulate

TA010814 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Apr 84 p 8

[David Clayman and Peretz Levine Commentary: "Consular Contravention"]

[Excerpts] American embassies are located in the capital city of every country with which the U.S. enjoys full diplomatic relations — except one. The exception is Israel, an ally of the U.S. and a sister democracy. Even in the case of communist East Germany, where the U.S. does not recognize Berlin as the capital, the U.S. nevertheless maintains its embassy there. Only in Israel is the official representative of the U.S. government and the American people located elsewhere than in the capital.

The Moynihan Bill (S 2031), which would mandate the transfer of the embassy to Jerusalem, has attracted considerable support and media coverage. Despite this, the secretary of state and the President have come out strongly against the bill, and even if passed, if may well be vetoed.

Even more disturbing, and, in the long run, more serious in its implications, is the role of the United States consulate general in Jerusalem. The activities of the consul general and his staff are little known and receive practically no attention in the American press, while the fact is that the consulate conducts its affairs in ways that are inimical to Israeli and to American interests.

Generally, a consulate functions as a branch or a sub-agency of an embassy, providing services — such as visas, affidavits, registration of births and deaths, commercial services and cultural programmes. Not so the consulate in Jerusalem. Here, the consul general is not accredited to the government of Israel. The consulate maintains no formal ties or relations with Israeli officials. Other than security arrangements and municipal services, which the consulate coordinates with the mayor's office, the Israel police and the consular department of the Foreign Ministry, the consulate does not do business with Israel. The consulate does not even report to Washington through the embassy in Tel Aviv; rather it has its own direct reporting system to Washington.

The historical background to this abnormal role of the consulate explains why many people sense that the Jerusalem consulate is the would-be embassy to a PLO-Palestinian state. U.S. policy in Jerusalem going back to the United Nations partition resolution of 1947 designated Jerusalem a corpus separatum — that is, not part of any state. Since 1967, when the city of Jerusalem was reunified, the U.S. has continued to withhold recognition of Jerusalem as part of Israel. It is as though the U.S. has decided that Israel's capital is Tel Aviv and the West Bank's capital is Jerusalem. In addition to regular consular services, the Jerusalem consulate maintains a political section to survey and report on political activities, situations and incidents that occur in the West Bank. It maintains close contact wiith Arab leaders, personalities, institutions and organizations throughout the West Bank.

Thus, the Jerusalem consulate, officially isolated and cut off from Israel but charged with maintaining contact and providing services to and coverage of the West Bank, creates what can only be regarded as an intolerable situation. This imbalance leads to the consulate being the target of official and unofficial complaints as to its pro-Arab and even pro-PLO activities.

On the personal and informal levels the consul-general and his staff, together with American Jewish organizations in Israel and individual Israelis, have made efforts to further dialogue, outreach and understanding. Sadly, these activities have not and cannot succeed in changing the perception that the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem has overstepped the bounds of diplomatic decency by the de facto recognition of a Jerusalem-West Bank entity while ignoring Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

One can only wonder whether this strange arrangement would continue if and when the U.S. Embassy moves from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, as the Moynihan bill requires. On the other hand, if the Moynihan bill is withdrawn, defeated or vetoed, Americans concerned for Israel should request that the administration at least change the status of its consulate in Jerusalem. The consulate-general in Jerusalem should be under the embassy in Tel Aviv and conform to normal diplomatic practice regarding accreditation to and relations with the host country.

MA'ARIV on U.S. Fears Over Embassy Transfer

TA021526 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Apr 84 p 8

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "Fears in Washington"]

[Text] No, this is not the battle for Jerusalem because the fate of Israel's capital will not be affected one way or the other if the U.S. Congress decides to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Even if President Reagan does not veto the bill and the embassy is moved to Jerusalem, this will not herald recognition by the United States of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Congressman Bill Green of New York, and enthusiastic supporter of the congressional bill, even tried to prove this by citing the example of the U.S. Embassy in East Berlin as a case in point; the embassy is located in the city but the United States does not recognize Berlin as the capital of the GDR.

Another representative, Tom Lantos from California, who was one of the sponsors of the bill in the House of Representatives, explained that the decision to move the embassy to West Jerusalem does not close off any options vis-a-vis negotiations with Jordan. Even Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, whose initiative and drive led to the storm and argument over Jerusalem, has already hinted that he would be satisfied with a bill that merely expresses a desire to move the embassy to Jerusalem rather than the more binding version that would call for action by the administration, the formula that led President Reagan to threaten to veto this bill.

President Reagan is not eager to do this in an election year and at a time when the two Democratic candidates, Walter Mondale and Gary Hart, have already made a public pledge to support moving the embassy to Jerusalem.

President Reagan's determination to fight against the "Jerusalem bill" being presented to Congress does not stem from opposition to Israel or even from the silly theory put forward in the U.S. media about the negative effects this would have on the peace process, implying that the estbalishment of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem would be like a U.S. settlement or an obstacle to peace. The reason for the administration's feverish activity to enlist all the former presidents and secretaries of state to fight against the proposal arises out of **fears**, not reasoning.

The U.S. Administration did not accept the **arguments** raised by the Arab and Muslim ambassadors who pleaded their cause before Secretary of State Shultz; but the administration was **panic-stricken** over the possibility that if Congress passes a bill to move the embassy to Jerusalem — and particularly if the bill is made good upon — diplomatic and consular representations in Arab countries might become targets for attacks by Muslim fundamentalists and other U.S. Embassies might go up in flames, casting a shadow on the political understanding that took so much effort to build up between Jerusalem and Washington.

The U.S. Administration minces no words in meetings with Israelis about these fears, which is why an appeal has even been made to Israel to help the United States find a "compromise" that would leave the operational part out of the congressional draft bill. Israel, however, cannot interfere and introduce changes in the draft bill — not because the Cabinet is afraid of "giving in" during an election year on a matter such as Jerusalem, but because any Israeli intervention would be construed as an admission that Israel is behind the proposal submitted by its friends in Congress.

Israel is refusing to accept paternal responsibility for this proposal, and this, moreover, is the truth. Israel did not initiate it; Israel did not formulate it or even fix the date for submitting it.

If the initiators of the move had consulted with Israel, they might have been advised not to provoke a confrontation between the Administration and Congress and to forgo gambling on what is dearest to us — Jerusalem — and risk making Israel's foes believe they have scored one over Israel, even on the Washington front.

U.S. Administration officials are panic-stricken. They make no bones about their fears of a violent reaction in Islamic countries. As a consequence, they are asking that the draft bill be removed from the agenda. Following the defeat in Beirut, the slap in the face by Husayn, the failure at the UN Security Council over the debate on the UN force in Lebanon, and in light of the escalation in the Iran-Iraq war, confusion in the administration has mounted. Officials who only yesterday talked about the "Saudi option" for a Middle East arrangement are in despair. In their distress they are prepared to freeze everything until after the elections — both in the United States and in Israel. They make no secret that they are pinning all their hopes on the Israeli election, to give them a rope to grasp in order to resume negotiations with Jordan. They have absolutely no evidence that the Jordanian monarch would be prepared to enter into negotiations, but they would like to hope so. The are once again ready to be proven wrong about Husayn's position.

That is why they have been contending that the Jerusalem question should be left open for negotiations. But by merely raising the Jerusalem issue in connection with the negotiations with Husayn they have actually put the lid on the Jordanian option, even if there is a change of guard in Israel, because there is a national consensus on Jerusalem.

Yet because they are so confused, they have no other plan but to sit and wait. This is another reason why they are pleading with the groups concerned not to do anything regarding Jerusalem. This also explains why President Reagan jumped on the bandwagon to oppose the congressional bill and has put his prestige on the line.

The choice facing Israel now is a tough one:

— Israel cannot interfere and tell its friends on Capitol Hill to withdraw the draft bill on Jerusalem;

— On the other hand, it is afraid that the confrontation between the administration and Congress might result in a victory for the former, in which case this could be taken to mean that the administration has succumbed to Arab threats, and Israel's influence in Congress has weakened. But this is not the case. Sympathy and support for Israel in Congress are as firm as ever and it will be manifested in increased aid to Israel when the administration finally agrees to approve the substantial increase.

No one talks about the manifold and important agreements [haskamot] between the Israeli Government and the Reagan administration. The clash between the administration and Congress, however, could create a distorted picture of the cordial relations prevailing between Jerusalem and Washington.

Consequently it would be advisable for the Israeli Government to make it crystal clear that it will stay out of the argument now under way between Congress and the administration on the location of the U.S. Embassy. The site for that embassy is an internal affair, which is why the administration will undoubtedly find a way to negotiate and compromise with the senators and congressmen, Jewish and non-Jewish alike; the administration will certainly find a way to appease them and set their minds at ease that it is not capitulating to Arab threats.

As for Jerusalem: It is the heart of the nation, by force of Israeli tradition; and, by virtue of the Israeli law passed by the Knesset, it is the capital of Israel, too.

One must not try to minimize the significance of U.S. congressional bills, but even the most sympathetic bill will not change Jerusalem's status, just as shelving it will not alter anything about Jerusalem's standing in Israel.

High Court Upholds Ban on Arabic Paper

TA040920 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] The High Court of Justice yesterday upheld the Interior Ministry's decision to prohibit the publication of a new Arabic bi-weekly in Jerusalem.

The court ruled that there was "very good reason" for the refusal of the ministry's Jerusalem district representative to permit the publication. It rejected a request that the representative be compelled to reveal the evidence on which his decision was based.

'Awdah Ayyub, a resident of East Jerusalem who studies at the University of Beirut, applied to the representative for permission to publish a bi-weekly called *AL-MASIRAH*, which would, she said, deal with "social, cultural, economic and political" subjects. The representative rejected her application, basing himself on defense Emergency Regulations, not giving the reasons for his decisions.

Justices Menahem Elon, Yehuda Kohen and Elisha Sheinbaum ruled in favour of the representative, stating that the Emergency Regulations free him from the need to explain his reasoning. The justices were shown the detailed evidence on which the representative based his decision, and ruled that "national-security considerations dictate that the information and its sources remain classified."

Breakdown in Decline of Fiscal 1983 Revenues

TA031243 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] In the fiscal year that ended at the end of March, state revenues dropped by 7 percent, according to the following breakdown: income from taxes on imports — 15-percent drop; income from income tax — 11-percent drop; income from customs duties — 1-percent drop. The Treasury explained this drop as stemming from the law on taxation in inflationary conditions, the losses suffered in the stock market, and the end of the Peace for Galilee levy. Our economic affairs correspondent 'Adi Hadar reports that in March alone there was a 26-percent decline in state revenues compared to last March.

New Commander Appointed for Southern Lebanese Army

TA040537 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Antoine Lahad, who is a general in the reserves in the Lebanese Army, today takes over as commander of the southern Lebanese army. He is 54 years old, and a Maronite Christian from northern Lebanon. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal notes that Lahad was chosen for the post in consultations with Sa'd Haddad before his death. Some time ago Lahad moved his family to Marj 'Uyun. He will be sworn in this afternoon in a public ceremony in the village of Bint Jubayl. Some 2000 soldiers, most of them Christians, serve in the southern Lebanese army. Each of them receives a monthly salary from Israel of 1,400 Lebanese lira, and another 400 lira from sources connected with the Lebanese Government.

Receives Command 4 April

TA041041 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] General Antoine Lahad this morning received the command of the southern Lebanese army, in a ceremony which took place in the southern Lebanese Shi'ite village of Bint Jubayl. Hundreds of local dignitaries and representatives of the Christians, Shi'ites, and Druze participated in the ceremony. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht says that in the ceremony, General Lahad said that his soldiers are responsible for maintaining security in southern Lebanon until the IDF withdraws from the area. He emphasized that his soldiers are Lebanese who serve under the Lebanese flag. However, he added, that for the time being the ties with the IDF and the State of Israel must be welcomed.

IDF Confirms Druze Soldier Missing

Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah's terror organization claims it is holding an Israeli Druze soldier. A Democratic Front spokesman in Damascus identified the captured as Sergeant Major Samir As'ad of the Galilee village of Beit Jann. The spokesman also publicized the soldier's identity number. He said the Red Cross would be notified. The Israeli army spokesman, in answer to a question, confirmed that a soldier by the name of Samir As'ad has been missing for a year. The Hawatimah group is one of two terrorist organizations claiming responsibility for Monday's gun and grenade attack in central Jerusalem. The spiritual leader of the Druze community in Israel, Shaykh Amin Tarif, has issued an urgent call for the release of Samir As'ad.

Al-Wazzan Statements Contain 'Fallacies, Deceptions'

JN021858 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 2 Apr 84

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Dear listeners: Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan stated yesterday that Lebanon had depended on the United States to achieve the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon because the United States has an influence on Israel.

Al-Wazzan's statement following his meeting with the USSR ambassador in Beirut contains fallacies and deceptions far greater than the meaning of the words that were used. Al-Wazzan is very well aware that Lebanon has never at any time needed any influence, whether a U.S. or any other influence, to achieve the Israeli withdrawal. The Israeli withdrawal was guaranted under the official agreement that was concluded between the Israeli Government and the Lebanese Government, headed by Al-Wazzan himself. Although Lebanon unilaterally abrogated the agreement, the Israeli Government has clearly reaffirmed that it is eager to withdraw the Israeli forces from Lebanon as soon as possible, once it receives assurances that the necessary security arrangements will be made to safeguard the Galilee.

The other fallacy contained in Al-Wazzan's statement is within the framework of deception. This fallacy seeks to blame the United States and to cover up for his mistakes and those of his president, Amin al-Jumayyil. Perhaps the most prominent mistake and the most offensive is that of giving in to the pressures and the terrorist blackmail that the Damascus rulers practiced in order to achieve their ambitions and designs in Lebanon. Just as he believes that Washington has admitted its so-called failure in achieving the Israeli withdrawal, Shafiq al-Wazzan and his president, Amin al-Jumayyil, must also admit the error they made when they abrogated the Lebanese-Israeli agreement under the pressure and terrorism of the Damascus rulers. It has become evident that the agreement's abrogation has not halted the shedding of blood in the Lebanese arena, has not achieved accord and national reconciliation, and has not strewn the Lebanese regime's path with roses, as President al-Jumayyil believed or was led to believe.

If Shafiq al-Wazzan wants to cover up for this error instead of admitting it, he made a statement yesterday in which he is also trying to cover up for a fact which is known far and near. This fact is that the Damascus rulers are not only pursuing their bloody interference in the Lebanese arena, but are continuing to be the major stumbling block on the road to the Lebanese people's regaining their dignity, independence, and complete sovereignty.

Finally, we say that Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's attempts to resort to deception in order to cover up for the errors and to obscure the facts will not serve Lebanon's interests, and will not extricate the Lebanese people from their tragic tribulation. Blaming others for one's mistakes, and having them shoulder the responsibility for one's mistakes instead of admitting them is more serious than committing the mistake itself. Committing mistakes is human, and no one is infalible. There is a saying that admitting an error is a virtue. As for indulging in errors, it is not only a sin but may be a crime with momentous consequences, particularly if this indulgence in errors is done by the rulers and leaders of the people.

Full Allocation To Be Drawn From Yarmuk River

TA040802 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Apr 84 p 3

[Report by Ya'aqov Friedler]

[Text] Haifa — Israel will shortly take all the water from the Yarmuk River to which it is entitled under agreements with Jordan. The agreements were made through the good offices of the U.S.

Israel plans to draw 60 to 70 million cubic meters annually.

Water-drawing will become possible within 18 months, when a fourth pumping unit costing $20m. is installed at Tabgha, Water Commissioner Tzemah Yishai announced here yesterday.

He was speaking at the 12th annual convention of the Agricultural Engineering Association at the Technion.

Yishai said that though the agreements were signed several decades ago, "for various reasons, including internal differences," Israel has not taken the 25 million it was allowed during the summer and "any desirable amount" during the rainy season.

Last week, a contract was signed with the Swiss suppliers of the Tabgha pumps for a fourth unit, to pump the extra water south.

The commission has also decided to draw water from Lake Kinneret, lowering its autumn level by one metre to 213 metres below sea level in order to accomodate water from the Yarmuk and rainwater.

"These waters will save the aquifers along the coastal plain, which are being dangerously over exploited, with the result that every six weeks another well runs saline," Yishai said.

He noted that Israel suffers from a chronic annual overuse of about 150 million cm. beyond the 1.85 billion cm. that are replenished.

Yishai also announced that if farmers wish to "assure at least their present limited allocation of water," they must help to provide the funds needed to develop new sources. The government intends providing no more than 40 percent of the $2 billion needed in the coming decade.

One of these new sources is desalination. It is to be started soon at the Nahal Tanninim near Hadera, where a new process may provide water at 25 cents per cm. which is within the half-dollar economic maximum, he said.

Increase in Arson Cases in Judaea, Samaria

TA040818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] A new phenomenon in Judaea and Samaria: arson against a political background. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that in the last few weeks, cars belonging to pro-Jordanian personages or people connected with the Village Leagues were set on fire, and that in reaction cars belonging to extremists were set on fire. Stalls in markets were also set on fire, and there were attempts to throw Molotov cocktails at houses.

Commander of the Israeli Police Judaea Subdistrict, Chief Superintendant David Kohen, told our correspondent that the police are preparing to deal with this new phenomenon.

Briefs

Soviet Jewish Emigration — Last month only 51 Jews emigrated from the Soviet Union. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh notes that this is a new low in Jewish emigration for the past 10 years. Eighteen of the Soviet Jews immigrated to Israel. Since the beginning of this year, only 229 Jews have left the Soviet Union and 89 of them immigrated to Israel. Our correspondent comments that the persecution of Jews and the low rate of emigration are a result of the direct policy of the new Kremlin ruler, Chernenko. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 3 Apr 84 TA]

Dollar Reserves Down — The country's foreign currency reserves dropped by $75 million during March, the Bank of Israel announced yesterday. The bank added that IS35.5 billion were printed in March to finance government activities. The bank said that during the 1983/84 fiscal year, the Finance Ministry printed IS220 billion. IS121 billion were used to finance government operations while the rest was used to support the prices of bank shares and government bonds. Commenting on these figures, theFinance Ministry said that government expenditures during the last fiscal year were down 6 percent in real terms as compared with 1982/83. The ministry added that during the last three months the government's spending level was 4 percent lower than the monthly average for the previous nine months. According to the ministry, government expenditure in March was 25 percent lower than in March 1983. [Excerpt][Jerusalem *THE JERUSA LEM POST* in English 3 Apr 84 p 2 TA]

March Unemployment — The unemployment rate is increasing. Data released by the Employment Service indicate that 11.5 percent more unemployment checks were issued in March than in February. In March 12,656 people received unemployment checks, as opposed to 11,187 people in February. [Text][Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 Apr 84 TA]

ALGERIA

Upper Volta's Sankara Arrives on Official Visit

LD312028 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Captain Thomas Sankara, the Upper Voltan head of state and president of the National Revolutionary Council, arrived this afternoon in Algiers for an official visit of several days. President Sankara was welcomed on his arrival at the Houari Boumediene Airport by President Chadli Bendjedid, members of the Political Bureau and the government, by party and state officials, and by members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Algiers.

Meets With Bendjedid

LD020934 Algiers Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Making the headlines in our international current affairs, is, of course, the continued visit by the Upper Voltan president to our country. Private political discussions yesterday brought together Presidents Chadli Bendjedid and Thomas Sankara and were enlarged upon afterwards with the delegations. These discussions were devoted to bilateral cooperation. During these discussion, Mr Saleh Goudjil, minister of transport, spoke with his Upper Voltan counterpart. In particular the subject of the opening of an air link between Ouagadougou and Algiers was discussed.

Give Views on Policies

LD031139 Algiers APS in English 1038 GMT 3 Apr

[Text] Algiers 3/04/84 (APS) — "The future of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) is not dark, because all the manoeuvres which are deployed so as to compromise efforts of the organization for a negociated settlement of conflicts of the region cannot continue to eternally hamper the peace process", Captain Thomas Sankara estimated yesterday in an interview to the ALGERIAN NEWS AGENCY (APS).

The present situation cannot last, and now that the fundamental question is raised so as to recover a more vigorous a more dynamic and a healthier "OAU and we trust in it" Captain Sankara pointed out. [sentence as received]

In this regard, Captain Thomas Sankara estimated that the next OAU summit should not in principles be held in the required time.

"Positions were not harmonized for the holding of this summit," he emphasized adding that "the delay is not important as to what is to be done".

Dealing with internal problems of the Panafrican organization, President Sankara notably indicated "towards which OAU do we want to go, and for which OAU do we want to meet".

Regarding the Moroccan blockade to the application of the 19th OAU summit resolution relating to the referendum process in Western Sahara, President Sankara estimated that the OAU member countries have to show to the Moroccan regime that they are ready to back it for the acceptation of the Sahraoui reality".

"We hope that all the African countries, rather than burying their head in the sand, should help Morocco to live with a reality that nobody can deny" Captain Thomas Sankara stressed.

On another turn, (?concerning) the question of African regional organizations, the Upper Volta President particulary stressed that in Africa "many organizations exist but do not achieve their missions at the present time".

These organizations "are blocked, either by a lack of strictness in the management, or by a lack of dynamism due most of the time to woolly policies" he pointed out.

Captain Thomas Sankara carried on: "When the political objectives are not clearly defined, or not raised in an indispensable way, this is expressed by hesitations which enable the undecided ones to fish in troubled waters.

Regarding the conflict with Mali, President Sankara estimated that "Upper Volta has with Mali the best contacts possible on this question".

Speaking about the Chadian question, President Sankara estimated that "Chad is today a distressing problem but we know that there will be a safe solution for the Chadian people". President Thomas Sankara insisted upon the fact that the Chadian question can be resolved only by the Chadian people.

In Southern Africa, we attend negotiations, contacts, and the evolution of relations between Angola and the Mozambique on the one hand and South Africa on the other hand. One can have a pessimistic opinion which aimed at claiming that these two states, at different levels, have had coward positions", he estimated.

Neverthless, he noted that: "In all cases, we, Upper Volta peoples, will never cast a stone at these countries for the reason that if they have reached this situation, it is because we have left them to struggle alone and that their allies have not deployed the necessary political, diplomatic, financial, and military support".

Finally dealing with the Algerian-Upper Volta relations President Sankara notably pointed out the positive and encouraging character of the various ties linking the two countries and their respectives peoples.

The Upper Volta president notably insisted upon the constant evolution of relations between the two states and warmly expressed his personal satisfaction and the Upper Volta people's one before the solid friendship and fraternity links which are becoming stronger with the brother people of Algeria.

Makes Departure Statement

LD031343 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Captain Tomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and head of state of Upper Volta left Algiers this morning at the end of a few-days state visit.

He was seen off at Houari Boumediene International Airport by FLN secretary general and President Chedli Bendjedid.

In a statement to the press in the VIP lounge at the airport, Sankara said his visit enabled him to become acquainted with Algeria and to meet with its peoples, in addition to holding fruitful talks with President Chedli Bendjedid and a number of Algerian officials. He thanked the Algerian people for their warm welcome. He also invited President Bendjedid to visit Upper Volta.

Joint Communique

LD032017 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Algeria and Upper Volta have agreed to increase contacts at all levels so as to maintain, by strengthening them, the good climate prevailing in their relations. This is stressed in particular by the joint communique just published following the official visit to our country by President Sanakra. The two countries are satisfied with the positive results already achieved at the meeting of the joint commission recently held in Ouagadougou, and in this field they agreed to see that the decisions agreed upon are implemented.

Aside from bilateral cooperation, Presidents Chedli Bendjedid and Thomas Sankara reviewed the international situation. They stated they are deeply concerned at the worsening of tension the world, particularly in Africa, in the Middle East and in Latin America.

As for Africa, the OAU naturally was mentioned in the talks. the two heads of state reaffirmed their commitment to implement the ideals and objectives of the organization's charter. In regard to Southern Africa they condemned imperialist maneuvers intended to perpetuate the hegemony of the racist Pretoria regime and to delay Namibian independence. Support for SWAPO, support for the ANC of South Africa and support for Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council are mentioned in the joint communique.

Dealing with the Chad issue, the communique calls on the various factions of the country to promote national (?reconciliation) under the aegis of the OAU and without any foreign interference.

In regard to the situation in northwest Africa, the two presidents remain convinced that only direct negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario Front can lead to results in the peace process [word indistinct] in Addis Ababa. In this respect the communique notes that if the peace process is indefinitely hindered, the participation of the SDAR in OAU meetings will become imperative.

In the remainder of the communique, the two presidents repeat their support for the Palestinian people and speak of PLO participation in the framework of an overall solution. They appeal to Iraq and Iran to end their conflict, and they support the efforts of the Contadora group in its search for a solution to the crisis in Central America. The attachment of the two countries to the Nonaligned Movement and to the promotion of a new international economic order is also mentioned.

Finally, it should be noted that President Sankara invited President Chedli Bendjedid to make an official visit to Upper Volta, an invitation which was accepted with pleasure. The date of the visit will be fixed later through diplomatic channels.

Trade, Cooperation With Great Britain Developed

PM301027 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 26 Mar 84 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Algeria-Britain: Various Aspects of Cooperation Reviewed"]

[Text] British Trade and Industry Minister Paul Channon, who started an official visit to Algeria on Saturday [24 March], was received yesterday by Abdelaziz Khellef, FLN Central Committee member and minister of commerce, at the Ministry of Commerce. The meeting was also attended by Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Mohamed Aberkane and British Ambassador to Algiers Mr Munro. Following the conversation the two ministers presided over a working session between Algerian and British delegations.

During the proceedings of this first session the two ministers reviewed the various aspects of cooperation between the countries. In order to provide Algerian-British relations with a legal framework it was agreed to proceed with the signing of an accord on the creation of a joint committee.

Trade was the subject most discussed, revealing major developments during the past 10 years. Abdelaziz stressed the need to galvanize and diversify our exports to Britain. An examination of existing capabilities revealed major potentials. It was agreed to continue various discussions, at the level of experts, with a view to reaching a plan of action for 1984.

Mr Chanon and his accompanying delegation also met with the minister of housing and urban development and the minister of chemical and petrochemical industries.

CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Holds Talks

LD031544 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Belkacem Nabi, FLN Central Committee member and minister of energy and chemical industries, this morning received Bohumil Urban, Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister, who is one of the chairmen of the Algerian-Czechoslovak committee.

During their talks, the two ministers analyzed relations between the two countries and ways of developing them in the fields of energy, industry, chemical, and petrochemical industries.

The Czechoslovak minister was also received by Salim Saadi, FLN Central Committee member and minister of heavy industry. Discussions covered trade and industrial relations in heavy industries and how to bolster them. The talks were attended by the Czechoslovak ambassador to Algeria.

LIBYA

Armed Forces Chief, SFRY's Mamula Tour Sabha

LD040952 Tripoli JANA in English 0921 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Sabha, Jumada Thani 31, April 4, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and Admiral Branko Mamula, federal secretary for national defense of Yugoslavia have paid a visit to Sabha District to inspect a number of glorious achievements and agricultural projects including Maknusah project for producing grains which represents an apparent sign of the glorious achievements accomplished by the Jamahiriyah people and the Great Al-Fatih Revolution in different fields to transform the desert into a green paradise.

The Yugoslavian visitor looked, during his tour, into different departments of the project and production of grains which contribute to achievements of self satisfaction [as received] in grains for the Libyan Arab people. Brigadier Abu Bakr Younis and Admiral Mamula carried out a tour on archeological Jarmah area and its historical features.

Omdurman Raid Accusations Mirror 1983 'Provocation'

PM300856 Tripoli AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR in Arabic 26 Mar 84 p 1

[Editorial: "They Are Deluding Themselves and They Are Wrong"]
[Text] The same plot and the same timing: Is it just a coincidence or a studied and premeditated plot? This time last year there was an uprising within the Sudanese Armed Forces. Numayri filled the world with noise claiming that there was a Libyan plot to overthrow his collapsing regime. As part of the predesigned plan, the heir of the buried As-Sadat urged the United States to deploy its 6th Fleet opposite the Gulf of Sidra to put pressure on the Jamahiriyah to stop the so-called Libyan plot against Sudan. The terrorist Reagan administration responded to Husni Mubarak's request, which was in line with the U.S. designs and practices. The United States had previously made several attempts at aggression against the Jamahiriyah through repeated provocations opposite the Gulf of Sidra.

Today the same theatricals are repeated to the last detail. An uprising occurs within the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Sudanese Air Force bombs Omdurman's radio station. So stooge Numayri begins to raise a clamor and to wail, claiming that the raid on Omdurman's radio was carried out by Libya. Egyptian forces and U.S. arms pour into Sudan and the Reagan administration again needs AWACS planes to Egypt and Sudan to carry out provocative espionage on Libya's borders with these two Arab countries.

When Husni Mubarak was asked by reporters about the task of these planes he insolently replied that the "task of these planes was defined in Washington." This only shows that Husni Mubarak is nothing but a low-level employee of the U.S. "Black House," which does not even give him access to information about the mission of the U.S. planes and ships in Egyptian airspace and waters even though he calls himself president of the Republic.

The new extensive U.S. presence in the Arab territories of Egypt and Sudan — the airlift to Numayri's regime and the dispatch of the AWACS planes — is a new attempt to tighten the imperialist and reactionary ring around the Jamahiriyah in accordance with the U.S. and reactionary Arab design to launch a treacherous aggression against it, undermine its people's authority, and destroy the Libyan Arab people's revolutionary gains and cultural achievements.

The dimensions of the U.S. and Arab reactionary plan to contain and commit aggression against the Jamahiriyah are clear in the feverish statements made simultaneously in Washington, Cairo, Khartoum, and Ndjamena, all speaking of what they call the need to put an end to Libya's terrorism in the area. One such statement, reflecting the grudge these people bear against the Libyan people, was made by the Egyptian regime's defense minister, Abu Ghazalah, in Khartoum. He said that quick action was needed so that everyone in the region would be cut down to size.

The strange thing is that those who are beating the drums of war against Libya and who are alerting their armed forces have not produced even a semblance of evidence to substantiate their false accusation that the raid on Omdurman's government radio was carried out by Libya. They just keep repeating their feeble and silly story that the aircraft which bombed the Omdurman radio station was a Tupolev aircraft, a type which, they claim, no country in the area except Libya possesses.

What is even more strange is that the two lackey regimes of Egypt and Sudan have called for a greater U.S. imperialist presence in the area, only weeks after the U.S. defeat in Lebanon and the failure of U.S. policy and designs there.

If the aim of the two subservient regimes in Cairo and Khartoum is to compensate their American masters for the latter's losses in Lebanon, intimidate the vigorous revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland, especially Libya, and emphasize that the United States, their protector, is still strong and capable of action in the region, then they have gravely miscalculated. The United States could never intimidate struggling people who believe in their freedom. It has not been able to do so not only since its defeat in Lebanon but also since its defeat in Vietnam and other parts of the world.

If the Lebanese nationalist forces, few as they are in number, have managed to defeat the U.S. crusade forces and their Phalangist and Zionist allies, will the Libyan Arab people, with all their arms and material and military resources, fail to inflict defeat on the Americans and their allies?

An aggression against the Jamahiriyah would not be a picnic and its perpetrators would fail. Those who think otherwise are deluding themselves and they are mistaken. Those who play with fire will only burn their fingers.

MAURITANIA

Sankara Scheduled To Make Friendly, Working Visit

AB031525 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The presidency of the CMSN announces: At the invitation of Lieutenant Colonel Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN, head of state, Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Revolutionary Council, head of state of the Republic of Upper Volta, will pay a friendly working visit to our country on 3 and 4 April 1984.

SUDAN

Vice President Lagu Interviewed on Rebels in South

GF311748 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 31 Mar 84 p 21

[Interview with Vice President Joseph Lagu by *AL-QABAS* reporter At-Tayyib Iklil at the People's Palace in Khartoum — date not given]

[Excerpts] [At-Tayyib Iklil] If there are shortcomings which led to this armed movement [in the south], what is the best way of removing them?

[Joseph Lagu] All Sudanese people should think of this issue, because the current rebellion, although concentrated in the south, involves all of Sudan. The rebels say they are fighting for the whole of Sudan. That is why all Sudanese people should discuss the issue and know the reasons which led these people to rebel.

[Iklil] Past experience shows that reconciliation usually ends to the regime's advantage: It absorbs the opposition.

[Lagu] This will not end the problem. Even if you absorb the opposition for a period of time, it will reappear as if you had done nothing. That is why reconciliation should be honest and genuine.

[Iklil] Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said recently that he wants to liberate all of Sudan and support the opposition. What is your comment?

[Lagu] I try to avoid talking about foreign parties. All I can say is that if we do not give them the opportunity, they will not find a reason for interference. If our citizens had not gone to Al-Qadhdhafi, then Al-Qadhdhdafi would have found no reason to interfere. For some years our relations with Libya deteriorated because of this. Before our citizens approached Libya and Ethiopia, did we have any problems? Hence, we have to find a way to prevent our citizens from going to these countries. We have to solve our internal problems here.

[Iklil] Within this framework, have you begun any contacts with the opposition for this purpose, and to what extent have these contacts succeeded?

[Lagu] I am not the one to answer this question.

[Iklil] But you are one of the leaders.

[Lagu] I am not the final authority. The final authority is the president, and the official spokesman is the foreign minister.

[Iklil] In his speech in Al-Qadarif on 20 March, President Numayri called on the opposition to surrender the arms which were given to it by Libya. Does this mean that the president fears the repetition of the 1976 events, when armed opposition tried to overthrow the regime?

[Lagu] I can't venture a guess. But the leader of any country has to talk this way. There is no head of state who asks the opposition to stay outside and continue the war. He has to call for peace and reconciliation. This is what he called for.

Delegation Explains Southern Issues, Islamic Law

JN031847 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Apr (SUNA) — Al-Baba James Surur, member of the Sudanese delegation that is visiting the United States, has asserted that President Numayri did not impose dividing the south into three regions. He added that the division was in response to the desire of the southerners themselves, who demanded the division in order to run the affairs of the south in a better way and to achieve more development.

This was said at a news conference the delegation held in New York. The delegation is comprised of Sirr al-Khatm al-Khalifa, the president's adviser for educational affairs; Dr Muhammad 'Uthman Abu Saq, the president's adviser for information; and (Pacfico Lado).

(Pacfico Ladu) explained the reasons that led to dividing the South. He said that the South is a vast area, and that it has been proven that it is difficult to run the affairs of the south from one regional capital.

At the beginning of the news conference, Sirr al-Khatm reviewed the situation in southern Sudan. He explained that there are some economic and social difficulties in that area, and that intensive efforts are being exerted to overcome these difficulties. He asserted that Islamic law is applied only to the Muslims.

Abu Saq noted that that 85 percent of Sudan's laws include all of the principles included in the islamic law.

'Umar Braydu, Sudan's representative to the United Nations, made an introductory statement at the news conference.

Upper Nile Governor on Situation in Province

JN031546 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Apr (SUNA) — In a statement after his meeting with President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri this morning, the Upper Nile Province Governor Daniel Chon asserted that the security situation in the province is calm and that life is normal.

Chon added that he briefed the president of the republic on activities in the province, and the problems the province is facing. He noted that the president showed understanding of the situation there.

The Upper Nile Province governor asserted that the People's Armed Forces and other organs are ready to confront and defeat the terrorist outlaws, referring to the allegations disseminated by some hostile media that outlaws are preparing to launch a large-scale attack in the winter season. He said that the province has not seen any activities by outlaws since the treacherous attack against the (Maglagar) Steamer.

TUNISIA

Libyan-Backed Oppositionist Sentenced in Tunis

PM291543 Paris LE MONDE in French 27 Mar 84 p 7

["M.D." dispatch: "Pro-Libyan Oppositionist Sentenced to 2 Years' Imprisonment"]

[Text] Tunis — On Thursday, 22 March, the Tunis court of summary jurisdiction passed a 2-year prison sentence on Mr Bechir Essid for slandering the head of state and members of the government and publishing untrue reports likely to disturb public order. Since the sentence cannot be enforced immediately, Mr Essid remains at liberty and has 10 days to appeal.

Mr Bechir Essid, who is a lawyer, is leader of the National Arab Rally, an opposition movement with very little support which usually merely echoes the Libyan regime's ideas and slogans. Moreover, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi unofficially told the authorities a few weeks ago that he would appreciate it if the proceedings against Mr Essid were dropped. Mr Essid took advantage of the events at the beginning of the year to express his views in various pamphlets and communiques. Around 60 lawyers helped defend their colleague, probably more out of professional solidarity than out of political sympathy with his movement.

ETHIOPIA

Joint Communique on Mengistu's USSR Visit Reported

EA031233 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1712 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] [Passage indistinct] The joint communique pointed out that during this official friendly visit, the high-level delegation of Socialist Ethiopia, led by Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, held talks with senior Soviet officials, led by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Konstantin Chernenko, on bilateral relations and cooperation and current international issues in an atmosphere dominated by friendship and mutual interests.

During the talks the Soviet leaders briefed their Ethiopian counterparts on the implementation of the resolutions of the historic 26th CPSU Congress to develop the country's industry and agriculture by improving economic management so as to boost the lives of the people of the USSR; on the steps taken during the concurrent regular meetings of the Central Committee; and on other aspects of the creativeness of the Soviet people in implementing the resolutions. The joint communique also points out that emphasis was given to the steps that the USSR had taken to stem the arms race and to secure world peace.

For its part, the high-level Ethiopian delegation explained to the Soviet leaders the general development and current position of our revolution, and efforts by the revolutionary government and COPWE to bring about social and economic changes. The The Ethiopian comrades also explained in detail the 10-year directory plan and its step-by-step implementation. They briefed the Soviet officials on the final phase of the formation of the Ethiopian Workers Party, to be established on the principles of scientific socialism.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed gratitude for the USSR's unreserved support toward building our national economy and strengthening the country's defense capabilities.

For their part the Soviet leaders expressed admiration for Socialist Ethiopia's decisive efforts to preserve and secure its revolution and territorial integrity and declared that they would give those efforts their full support. They also unequivocally condemned the chronic acts of aggression and provocation perpetrated against this friendly country, calling for an end to this type of provocative policy. They stressed that what had so far been achieved by virtue of the friendship and cooperation agreements signed between the two countries is satisfactory. They declared their determination to broaden and expand this relationship.

The two sides agreed to enhance their bilateral comprehensive relations, particularly in the economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural, educational, public health care and sports spheres. They also agreed to conduct training programs for national professionals. In this respect the Soviet leaders affirmed their full support for the implementation of development plans.

Assessing the international situation, Socialist Ethiopia and the USSR affirmed that they have completely similar stands. The two sides recognized that the main causes of the dangerous situation manifest in the world are the frantic activities by the provocative forces of imperialism trying to consolidate its supremacy in the world, the unlimited expansion of military tensions and the direct interference in the internal affairs of independent countries.

On this, the two sides recognized the need for the eradication of the nuclear threat with special emphasis on fruitful and synchronized cooperation between peace-loving forces, an end to the arms race, the fostering of mutual trust and the creation of a constructive basis for cooperation and for efforts to be made to guarantee the rights of people to freedom and social development.

The high-level Ethiopian delegation expressed its admiration for the steps taken by the USSR to improve the international situation and noted that for those who possess nuclear weapons, the directives and regulations presented by the USSR are useful for any country. In this respect it affirmed that it supports the efforts of the Soviet Union.

The communique pointed out that the two sides had exchanged ideas on the situation in Africa, and that the imperialist countries, under the leadership of the United States, were intensifying their policy of oppression in African countries.

The two sides pointed out that in accordance with this overt plan to use military force to interfere in internal affairs, the imperialists desire other countries to participate. They added that they realize that this oppression is being perpetrated by the imperialists against African countries that follow an independent foreign policy line for social and socioeconomic change.

Socialist Ethiopia and the Soviet Union stated their conviction that the African Continent should not be an arena where international political and military forces clash. They condemned the imperialist desire and insistence on claiming that the whole or parts of Africa should be viewed from the viewpoint of their own interests.

Turning to the Horn of Africa, Socialist Ethiopia and the USSR, in accordance with their well-known policies supporting good neighborliness and mutual rights, reaffirmed their stand for nonviolation of borders between countries, preservation of territorial integrity and national dignity, noninterference and the renunciation of territorial claims. In this respect the joint communique states that the leaders of the USSR noted Socialist Ethiopia's continuing efforts to preserve good-neighborliness and good relations and to promote the establishment of cooperation with neighboring countries.

The two sides condemn the policy of strengthening military forces in the Horn of Africa and countries in the region as pursued by the United States and its NATO collaborators. They protest U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the countries of the region and the intention of the United States to use the (?central military command).

Socialist Ethiopia and the USSR expressed their concern over the situation in southern Africa and strongly condemned the racist South African regime, which is supported by the United States, for carrying out open acts of aggression against neighboring countries in violation of the UN resolution on the Namibian issue.

The two sides have assessed the diplomatic and political pressure by Washington and Pretoria as a strategy aimed at facilitating their control of the whole of southern Africa. Socialist Ethiopia and the USSR condemned South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia and called for immediate independence to the Namibian people in accordance with the Resolution 435 and Chapter 539 of the UN Security Council resolution.

The two sides rejected the linking of Namibian independence with the question of the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and other unrelated issues. The two sides also affirmed that SWAPO is the sole and authentic liberation front for the Namibian people.

They expressed their support for the South African peoples struggle to eliminate the inhumane racist regime and called on all countries to implement the sanctions imposed on South Africa properly. They also expressed their support for the just struggle for freedom of the ANC.

Socialist Ethiopia and the USSR affirmed their support, as always, for Angola, Mozambique and other countries bordering South Africa and called on other countries to give the necessary support and help. They appreciated the role of the OAU in protecting the interests and wishes of the African peoples struggle against racism, imperialism, and colonialism, and highly regarded the need to consolidate the national independence and dignity of African countries and to protect world peace and security.

The two sides said that making Africa an arena for peace and international understanding should not be viewed separately from other serious problems of Africa such as eliminating the threat of a nuclear war.

The two sides stressed their belief that the problems of Chad and Western Sahara should be solved through the basic (?ideas) and correct resolutions of the OAU and without external interference.

The leaders of the USSR expressed their high regard for Ethiopia's correct attitude toward the OAU and the contribution of the current OAU chairman, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, toward ensuring that the OAU, which belongs to the whole of Africa, held its rightful place in the international arena.

Socialist Ethiopia and the USSR pointed out that the establishment of military bases by the United States and other NATO member countries in the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea, and Persian Gulf region has worsened the dangerous situation for peace and supported the nonaligned countries' call for making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

They also called for the immediate convening of an international conference on the issue in accordance with the UN General Assembly resolutions.

The two sides expressed their concern over the dangerous situation in the Middle East that has been created as a result of the aggressive policy of the imperialist powers, and strongly condemned these powers' interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon and other Arab governments and the militaristic policy and activities they pursue in these countries.

The two sides pointed out that the Middle East problem can only find a just and lasting solution through joint efforts which include the participation of the lawful representative of the Palestinian Arabs, the PLO, and the concerned parties. They added that this will be so when the Palestinian people use their right to decide their own future to form their own independent state, when the Palestinian people achieve their lawful and national rights and when Zionist Israel unconditionally withdraws from the Arab territory it has occupied since 1967 and when the independence, existence, and rights of the countries in the region are respected.

The two sides stated that, accordingly, it was necessary to hold an international conference on the Middle East issue in which the concerned parties, including the PLO, would participate. Socialist Ethiopia and the USSR reaffirmed their solidarity with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in its struggle to protect its national independence and called for an end to all military and other interference by foreign powers in the country's internal affairs.

The two sides believed that the continuation for political stability in the country will (?bring) a solution to the region's problems.

Assessing the situation in southeast Asia, the two sides supported the foreign policies of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, and in their belief in the need to hold discussions with the association of southeast Asian nations for eliminating differences between countries in the region so as to make the region a zone of peace and foster good-neighborliness and cooperation.

The two countries have again stated that only the lawful Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea can represent the country in various international forums, including the United Nations.

Socialist Ethiopia and the USSR affirmed their solidarity with the Cuban people in their struggle to protect their independence and national dignity from foreign plots and called on the United States to stop its provocations and intimidation against socialist Cuba, as this undermines peace.

They also strongly condemned the hostility of U.S. imperialism to the Nicaraguan revolution, the interference in the internal affairs of El Salvador and the illegal occupation of independent Grenada.

The two sides expressed their support for the United Nations and its effort to avert nuclear war, halt the arms race, improve the world situation and realize the establishment of a new world economic order. They also expressed their readiness to carry out their share in implementing the United Nations' efforts, in accordance with the mandate in its Charter, to protect international peace and security.

The two sides stated that Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam's visit to the USSR has clearly contributed to the strengthening of the existing relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation between the CPSU and COPWE and between Socialist Ethiopia and the USSR.

The communique pointed out that the invitation by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, PMAC and COPWE chairman, commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, to Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, to pay an official friendly visit to Socialist Ethiopia had been gladly accepted.

The meeting was held between Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, PMAC and COPWE chairman and commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces. Members of the Ethiopian delegation which participated in the meeting were: Comrade Lieutenant-General Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member and minister of defense; Comrade Adis Tedla, PMAC Standing Committee member, deputy chairman of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member; Comrade Hailu Yemanu, minister of industry and COPWE Central Committee member; Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, minister of finance and COPWE Central Committee member, and Comrade Goshu Wolde, minister of foreign affairs and COPWE Central Committee member.

Members of the Soviet delegation present during the meeting were: Comrades Aliyev, CPSU Politburo Central Committee member and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Andrey Gromyko, Politburo Central Committee member, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs; and Marshal Ustinov, Politburo Central Committee member and minister of defense.

During the talks, those who participated on the Ethiopian side were Comrades Mengistu Gemechu, COPWE Central Committee member and special aide of the comrade chairman; and Nesibu Taye, Ethiopia's ambassador to the USSR and COPWE Central Committee member.

Those present on the Soviet side were Comrades Ilichev, deputy foreign minister; Kovalev, deputy foreign minister; Golikov, CPSU Central Committee secretary aid; Konstantin Fomichenko, USSR ambassador to Ethiopia and CPSU Central Committee alternate member; and Vasev, member of the Foreign Ministry.

During his visit to the USSR the comrade chairman laid wreaths at the Mausoleum of Comrade Vladimir Ilich Lenin and at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers.

Bulgarian Defense Minister Arrives, Meets Tesfaye

EA031836 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Lieutenant General Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, PMAC Standing Committee member, minister of national defense and COPWE Executive Committee member, and Comrade Army General Dobri Dzhurov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and defense minister, held their first round of talks today at the Ministry of Defense Hall. Comrades Lt Gen Tesfaye and Army General Dzhurov exchanged experiences on bilateral defense matters and debated future tasks.

Government Takes Journalists on Tour of Eritrea

AB310851 Paris AFP in French 0917 GMT 30 Mar 84

[By Seyoum Ayele]

[Text] Asmara, 29 Mar (AFP) — The representative of the Ethiopian central authorities in Eritrea, Taferra Wondie, has neither confirmed nor denied the recent claim by the Eritrean separatist guerrillas that they have taken the town of Tesseney, on Eritrea's western border with Sudan.

"There is constant fighting in Eritrea," declared Taferra Wondie — former minister of health and in fact the "leader" of the party in Eritrea — during a press conference held Wednesday after a 1-week tour in Eritrea organized for journalists based in Addis Ababa.

Taferra Wondie admitted that the situation was "tense" in the Tesseney region and that the "rebels" who have been waging a secession war against the Ethiopian authorities for 22 years now "regularly destabilize some regions." "It is a guerrilla war. They are well armed and they attack or withdraw as they like," he said. The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), the most effective of these separatist movements, claimed that it took Tesseney in January and affirmed that it still controls this town.

Mr Taferra's reaction is the first by the Ethiopian authorities since the guerrillas claimed that they had taken Tesseney. Since then, the EPLF has asserted that it has taken other villages near Tesseney after destroying several Ethiopian garrisons and killing many government soldiers.

The guerrillas, according to Mr Taferra, are "liars" who are trying to pass their defeats off as victories for the sake of propaganda.

General Merid Negussie, the administrator of Eritrea, declared during the same press conference that "the main mission of the Ethiopian Army is to get out and try to destroy the guerrillas." He said that is why it sometimes gives the impresssion of evacuating certain zones by leaving its bases.

Mr Taferra again accused the "imperialists and reactionary neighboring Arab states, particularly Sudan" of trying to reconcile the three secessionist movements — the EPLF led by Ramadan Mohammed Nur, the ELF (Eritrean Liberation Front) of Abdallah Idriss, and the ELF-PLF (Eritrean Liberation Front-

People's Liberation Forces). Eritrea, the Ethiopian leader added, is fed up with the war and its most fervent dream "is to have peace in order to work and take part in the building of a new society".

In recent years in Eritrea, continued the representative in this province of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia (the future Ethiopian sole party), the labor unions number 20,000 workers, the farmers' associations, 60,000 members, and the women and young people's associations, 120,000 members.

The Eritrean people have been trained and armed and they now create "great difficulties" for the guerrillas, Mr Taferra added. According to him, the Ethiopian Government spent almost $118 million since the beginning of the campaign (called Red Star) for the reconstruction of Eritrea that began 2 years ago.

During their tour of Eritrea, the journalists were able to travel by road from Massana on the Red Sea and Keren in the north of the province, but they could not visit the Tesseney region.

ELF-RC Head: 80 Percent of Eritrea Liberated

GF040518 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1812 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Doha, 3 Apr (WAKH) — An Eritrean official has stated that the Eritrean revolution has been able to liberate 80 percent of the Eritrean land and to organize public administration in the liberated Eritrean cities.

Mr Abdallah Idriss, chairman of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council, who is currently visiting Doha to brief officials on the development of events in connection with the Eritrean cause, said that during its struggle which has continued for 23 years, the Eritrean revolution has been able to unite the Eritrean people and to convince the world public opinion and a large number of Arab, African, and Islamic countries of the just Eritrean cause and the right of the Eritrean people to self-determination.

In a statement to QNA, Mr Idris indicated that Ethiopia is currently mobilizing nine army divisions, equipped with the most modern arms and equipment, in preparation for launching an offensive to eliminate the Eritrean question and to impose a military solution on it despite the deteriorating military and economic situation in Ethiopia and despite the escalation of the struggle of the armed nationalist fronts against it.

The Eritrean official mentioned that a meeting will be held in April for the purpose of implementing a new agreement for the unification of the Eritrean factions and the integration of these factions in a unified national organization.

Mr Idris paid tribute to the State of Qatar's support for the Eritrean cause and the struggle of its people to determine their fate and to liberate their land.

Qatari Information Minister Mr 'Isa Ghanim al-Kawwari met with the Eritrean delegation headed by Mr Abdallah Idris this morning. During the meeting, the latest developments in the Eritrean issue and the struggle of its people against Ethiopian occupation were reviewed.

SOMALIA

Reportage on DPRK Vice Premier Chong's 3-Day Visit

Arrives 2 April

EA021552 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1115 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Summary] The DPRK vice premier, Chong Chun-ki, arrived in Mogadishu today for a 3-day visit to the Somali Democratic Republic. He said he will hold talks with Somali officials and tour development projects.

Kulmie Hosts Dinner

EA031248 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
0330 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The second vice president of the SDR [Somali Democratic Republic], Major General Hussein Kulmie Afrah, last night hosted a dinner party at Juba Hotel in Mogadishu in honor of the vice premier of the DPRK, Comrade Chong Chun-ki, and his delegation, who arrived for a 3-day visit to the country yesterday.

In speeches delivered on the occasion, the vice president and the vice premier addressed themselves to the issue of the areas of political, economic and social cooperation between the two friendly countries. The SDR vice president said the SDR appreciates the fruitful cooperation in projects and technology between the two peoples and the two countries.

He went on to say Somalia has confidence in the struggle of the DPRK to realize their unity [as heard]. Challe Kulmie also spoke on the situation in the country and the long drought and the provocations by the enemies of Somalia against the country and its people.

The DPRK vice premier expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome accorded to him and his delegation in Somalia and said that the two countries and peoples hold identical views in opposing anything detrimental to the progress of the two countries. He added that his visit would serve to strengthen relations and cooperation between the two sides.

First Vice President Samantar Returns From Egypt

EA031649 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1115 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Challe Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar, Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] first vice president and defense minister, and his delegation returned home today after ending an official visit to Egypt.

In an interview for Ministry of Information reporters at the airport VIP lounge, Challe Samantar said his visit to Egypt was in response to an invitation calling for a high-level Somali delegation to visit Egypt, which was extended during President Husni Mubarak's February visit to Somalia and after his talks with Challe Mohamed Siad Barre.

The vice president said his talks with Egyptian leaders concerned strengthening relations and cooperation between the two countries and brotherly peoples, adding that they ended in success and mutual understanding.

Challe Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantar represented the SDR president, Challe Muhammad Siad Barre, at the funeral of late Guinean leader Ahmed Sekou Toure, one of Africa's renowned freedom fighters who won international acclaim, especially [words indistinct]. (?Challe Samantar) said the funeral was attended by many world leaders, although it was disappointing that Mengistu, who holds the chairmanship of the OAU, neither attended nor even sent a representative to the funeral. African leaders consider him an isolationist in Africa.

Mengistu, Al-Qadhdhafi Implement USSR 'War Strategy'

EA032053 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1700 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Mengistu and Al-Qadhdhafi are preparing to implement a war strategy on orders from Moscow: This is the topic of our commentary written by 'Abd ar-Rahman (Shidow Abdi).

Mengistu Haile Mariam and Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi are known as [words indistinct] of the USSR who will quickly implement the USSR's strategies and expansionist plans in the Horn of Africa. Since the 1977 open intervention by the Soviet regime in the internal affairs of the region and its full (?support) to its surrogates such as Abyssinia, Libya, and others, the Horn of Africa has become an arena of turmoil and instability. The instability, confrontations, and fighting being constantly stirred up by Abyssinia and its cohorts are of interest only to the superpower which is openly interfering in the affairs of the region. Plans were also laid in Moscow for war strategies to counter liberation movements in the region and damage the peace and unity of the countries in it.

In order to secure funds to implement these war strategies, Mengistu went to Libya, where he consulted Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who has misdirected most of Libya's oil revenues toward financing the wars which the Abyssinian regime is waging in the region.

Al-Qadhdhafi is known worldwide as the pioneer and supporter of international terrorism, as can be witnessed by the unlimited monetary handouts he makes for the training and equipping of terrorists such as those inside Abyssinia who are stirring up instability and insecurity in the countries of the region.

What is most astonishing of all is that the USSR, which has pledged to support and recognize liberation movements such as the ELF, the WSLF, and others, should today describe them as expansionist. This can only be seen as hypocrisy in the USSR's policy, a scandalous and shameless state of affairs for a superpower.

It is most unfortunate that Mengistu and his ilk have not yet understood multifaced nature of this policy, but there is no doubt that they will wake up to reality one of these days. Moreover, it is most disheartening to note that Mengistu, in his capacity of OAU chairman, is preparing and organizing conspiracies against the very unity of Africa while remaining ignorant of the facts of African affairs.

Mogadishu Radio To Start Broadcasting in Arabic

EA041020 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1115 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] SDR Minister for Information and National Guidance Colonel Mohamed Omar Jess, stated today that to implement the party andgovernment policy on strengthening the learning of Arabic, the SDR would commence broadcasting in Arabic alongside other programs in Somali as of Saturday, 7 April 1984. The minister told reporters from his ministry that Arabic news, commentaries, and features such as music would be broadcast on the 41 shortwave meter band and on the 312 and 432 mediumwave meter bands.

Colonel Mohamed Omar Jess said that inasmuch as Arabic, like Somali, was an official language, such broadcasts would encourage the Somali people to learn Arabic quickly. Radio Mogadishu and Radio Hargeisa would therefore each broadcast three Arabic news bulletins, a commentary and other features, including music, alongside Somali broadcasts during each 24 hour period.

DFSS Reportedly Attacks Government Forces 31 Mar

EA031139 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali
to Somalia 1800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Units of the 15th Gorod Divison of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia wing of the Somali opposition forces have launched attacks on bases of troops still loyal to the Barre regime at (Daset) and Gool Weeyne, seven kilometers north of Cabuud Waaq, inflicting serious losses on the regime's troops.

In the attacks launched on 31 March 1984 the enemy troops lost 25 soldiers, with 55 others wounded and 9 soldiers taken prisoners. The enemy forces also suffered heavy material losses.

The Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia combatants who carried out the mission returned safely to base.

CHAD

Ndjamena Denies Bardai Claims on BET Fighting

AB040120 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Press communique issued by Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat on 3 April on the situation in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti [BET] area of Chad.

[Text] According to information broadcast by Radio Bardai, some clashes took place in central Chad these last few days between northern elements and the Chadian National Armed Forces. This information, which was fabricated for the sake of propaganda, is a big lie and is aimed at hiding recent developments in the occupied Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti [BET] region. In fact, for a week now, 50 Libyan soldiers and officers have been held hostage by Chadian soldiers in Bardai and Zouar. These towns are today threatened with bombing by Libyan artillery. This patriotic action, if anything, shows the gradual awareness of Chadians in that region of the expansionist and slavery policies of Libya in Chad. The town of Faya-Largeau is also surrounded by Libyan tanks, but the people are preparing an uprising in support of their brothers in Bardai and Zouar.

GABON

French Prime Minister Visits Uranium Mines

AB021850 Dakar PANA in French 1140 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Libreville, 02 Apr (AGP-GAB/PANA) — Pierre Mauroy, the French prime minister, arrived late Sunday afternoon (1600 local time) in Franceville, the chief town of the southeastern province of Gabon, on the last leg of his visit to this country. He was accompanied by Leon Mebiame, his Gabonese counterpart.

After being received at the airport by the town's political and administrative officials, the two prime ministers — accompanied by members of their delegations, including Christian Nucci, French minister delegate to the Ministry of External Relations for Cooperation and Development; and Martin Bongo, Gabonese minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation — flew by helicopter to Mounana, a small mining area situated northwest of Franceville. There Mr Mauroy was expected to visit the Franceville Uranium Mining Company (Fumco) plant. Fumco, it is recalled, is a joint-stock company created in 1958 with one-quarter of its capital (about 5 billion CFA francs) belonging to the Gabonese Government, while about 74 percent is held by four French companies: MOKTA [expansion unknown], Cogema [General Nuclear Materials Company], the Sogarem Gabonese Mine Prospecting and Exportation Company, and Cogei [expansion unknown]. The company has a processing plant with a capacity of up to 1,500 tons of metal uranium per year. It also has a solvent extraction workshop and a sulfuric acid-producing factory. It employs a 238-member senior staff, 52 percent of which is Gabonese.

France, along with Japan, Belgium, and Italy, is the main buyer of Gabonese uranium which is extracted openly and processed locally before being hauled by truck down to Mbinda (Congo), then sent via rail to the Pointe Noire port. It is stressed that Gabon, which for one year now has been negotiating with the French Ministry for Cooperation on a nuclear power installation in the country, has other uranium fields at Oklo, Okelobondo, Boyindza, and Mangara. The natural ore reserves are estimated at 4.5 million tons, that is, 3,500 tons of metal uranium.

The French prime minister, who left Gabon Monday morning for Ndjamena, gave a press conference on Saturday evening in Franceville.

GHANA

Neighbors Denounced For 'Assisting Dissidents'

AB040235 Accra Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The *TIMES* wonders what purpose Togo and the Ivory Coast are trying to serve by assisting dissidents to subvert Ghana. The paper says the free and open manner in which the two neighboring countries have allowed dissidents to use their territories as a base from which to carry out acts of subversion, sabotage, and banditry against Ghana exposes the strong stand they have taken for the collapse of Ghana's revolutionary process. The *TIMES* points out that their bid to destroy Ghana's revolutionary process exposes their substantive self-deception that their own continued existence depends on the collapse of the process in Ghana. This is far from the truth. While it is the law of revolutions that all revolutions support one another, if revolutions will emerge to overthrow the regimes in Togo and the Ivory Coast, their emergence will be self-ordered and inevitable.

GDR Road Construction Equipment To Be Imported

AB011405 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Ghana is to import about $2.5 million worth of road construction equipment from the GDR. This was disclosed to newsmen in Accra by the secretary for roads and highways, E.O. Donkor, on his return from the GDR after leading a two-member Ghana delegation to the Leipzig International Trade Fair. He said he had a wide range of talks with the GDR minister for foreign trade, Horst Soelle, on expanding the existing barter trade agreement between the two countries. Under the agreement, Ghana imports heavy construction equipment, while it exports timber and cocoa to that country. According to Mr Donkor, priority will be given to the department of feeder roads for the contruction and maintenance of roads in the country. He said some of the exhibits on show at Ghana's stand included cocoa, shea butter, jute, wood carvings, textiles, and mineral ore. The other member of the delegation was N.K. Williams, principal secretary of the ministry of roads and highways.

Barter Prospects With Upper Volta To Be Explored

AB301335 Accra Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Ghana is to explore soon the possibility of a further avenue of barter trade between her and Upper Volta. It will involve the exchange of Ghanaian black (?packed) tobacco and cola nuts in exchange for Upper Volta's cattle. This news was given by the secretary for agriculture, John Ndebugre, during a visit to the offices of the Ghana Tobacco Company in Accra. He pledged that his ministry will give the company all the necessary assistance to expand. This is because it is one of the biggest foreign exchange earners for the nation.

GUINEA

New Regime Effects Return to Normalcy After Coup

CMRN Communiques 3, 4 Issued

AB031645 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1625 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Communique No 3: The Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] calls upon the dignitaries of the former regime to report as soon as possible to one of the military garrisons in the capital. We call upon the people to (?dispatch) or put these citizens at the disposal of the CMRN.

Communique No 4: The CMRN once more assures the people of Guinea, friendly and brotherly people, that all properties and personal welfare of foreigners are safe on Guinean soil. Long live the glorious people of Guinea! Long live the Republic!

Former Detainees Interviewed

AB031545 [Editorial Report] Conakry Domestic Service in French at 1445 GMT on 3 April carries a report of a meeting this morning between some radio reporters and a number of political detainees just released by the country's new military rulers. In a recording, all the former detainees expressed great happiness at being freed. They shouted: "We are free! Today we are free! Today we are free!"

[Reporter] "How many years did you spend in detention?"

[Unidentified former detainee] "I spent 3 years at Camp Boiro. My father died at Camp Boiro. Michel Camara, a gendarmerie lieutenant, also died at Camp Boiro. I am now free! I am happy. I am free! Guinea is free. I am happy! Thank you!"

[Reporter] "And you?"

[Unidentified former detainee] "I am Mamadou Riba. I was detained since 29 May 1982. I was accused of sabotage."

[Amadou Mokhtar Balde, a former detainee] "I was an international functionary. I worked for the United Nations in Dakar. I came to Guinea in 1980 on leave. This is my country. I am from Tougue. I was arrested in 1980 without any reason on the pretext of a verification. Verification of what? I know the answer only today: verification of all that was bad in the former regime. I thank you. I am addressing myself to the Guinean Army. I thank all those who took this initiative and I encourage them to ensure the future of the Guinean people. I thank all those who took part in this action which I support."

[Another former detainee] "I am a student. I was arrested when I was on a visit to my parents during my vacation. I was accused of being a plotter and I was put in a cell for verification. I had been in the cell since 18 September 1983 and have lost my studies because of a lie. I am now free and I thank the Army for this initiative."

[Another former detainee] "I was arrested because a relative of mine came to stay with me for the night. I was arrested on 23 March 1981. I spent 3 years and 10 days in detention. I am Mamadou Boubar. I was a meteorological engineer at the Conakry airport. I was arrested on 23 March 1981 for the simple reason that a relative of mine spent the night with me."

[Former gendarme Mamadou Bamba] "I was a gendarme. I was arrested on the pretext that I plotted against the regime. I have not even been interrogated."

Exiles 'Relieved'

AB031635 Paris AFP in English 1618 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Freetown, April 3 (AFP) — The numerous exiled Guineans in neighboring Sierra Leone appeared to breathe a sigh of relief on hearing news of the coup in their home state today, observers here said.

As with the announcement a week ago of the death of President Ahmed Sekou Toure, there was no outward sign of emotion from the exiles. But one of them said: "The people of Guinea will never again subjugate and allow themselves to suffer as they did under Sekou Toure."

The Guineans in Sierra Leone left their country to escape the late president's cruel regime. As many as two million Guineans are said to have fled the country during his 26 years in power — close to a quarter of the population.

Continuous Broadcasting Planned

AB031909 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1854 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] This is Conakry, the Guinean radio and television service. We inform our listeners that our broadcasts will continue uninterrupted on the radio until morning, while the television will (?end) its programming at 1930 gmt.

'Banditry' Will Be Punished

AB032024 Conakry Domestic Service in French
2008 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Communique No 5]

The Military Committee of National Redress [CMRN], in conformity with its intention of ensuring the security and safety of citizens, makes an urgent appeal to all the people not to engage in any form of looting or robbery against properties and buildings. Soldiers and security agents must strictly ensure that all acts of banditry are vigorously punished.

Long live the glorious people of Guinea! Long live the republic!

CMRN Members Announced

AB032025 Conakry Domestic Service in French
2008 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Communique No 6]

[Text] Here is the list of members of the Military Committee of National Redress [CMRN]:

1. Colonel Lansana Konte
2. Colonel Diara Traore
3. Major Abdourahmane Kaba
4. Major Makan Camara
5. Major Usman Sow
6. Major (Kekoura) Camara
7. Major Alousseni Fofana
8. Captain Mohamed Lamine Sakho
9. Captain Mamadi Bayo
10. Captain Mamadou Balde
11. Captain Lancine Keita
12. Captain Pathe Barry
13. Captain Facinet Toure
14. Lieutenant Abdourahman Diallo
15. Regimental Sergeant Major Bago Joseph Zoumanigui

Secretariat:

16. Captain Fode Momon
17. Captain Jean Traore
18. Captain Mohamed Oumar (Fode)

Long live the glorious people of Guinea! Long live the republic!

Exile Interviewed

LD032157 Paris International Service in French
2115 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt] For the moment reactions to the news from Guinea remain prudent, except, naturally, among the Guinean opposition — those who fled Guinea under Sekou Toure such as, for example, (Siradou Diallo) of the Assembly of Guineans in Exile:

[Begin recording] We have waited for this day for 26 years. We always hoped that the army, which was decimated and bled dry by Sekou Toure, which lost many of its officers, and which was always by the side of our people in their suffering during this period, that this army — as in other countries — would in the end rise to defend its people. I must say that for me, for my friends, for us, it is the greatest day since the proclamation of the independence of our country on 2 October 1958.

For the soldiers who have taken power, I think that one of the basic concerns — in any case what we expect, what the Guinean people expects — is that they should correct the economic situation, and that at last they should end the system of terror we have experienced for a quarter century. And here also I believe I read somewhere that there is an aspiration to democracy. That this democracy may not be like what we have in the West goes without saying, but there should be a minimum of respect for human beings, and people should be able to move freely between their country and abroad without being exiled from their country. That would be marvellous, and we hope it will be so. [end recording]

Message Sent to World Leaders

AB032255 Conakry Domestic Service in French
2205 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Military Committee of National Redress [CMRN] has sent a message to heads of state of the world:

To all heads of state:

We have the honor to inform you that the people of Guinea, through their national Armed Forces, have decided today, Tuesday, 3 April 1984, to take the destiny of the Guinean nation into their own hands. To this end, a Military Committee of National Redress is entrusted with the high management of the affairs of the state. The CMRN, anxious to maintain the friendly relations already existing between our people and yours, assures you of its total readiness to strengthen the fraternal links of cooperation in the supreme interest of our peoples.

Highest and fraternal consideration,

[Signed] The Military Committee of National Redress

Resumption of Work Ordered

AB040605 Conakry Domestic Service in French
0545 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Communique No 7]

[Text] The Military Committee for National Redress, noting with satisfaction the order and discipline observed by each and everyone throughout the country, orders the resumption of work, markets and movements on Wednesday 4 April 1984.

Therefore, all telephone communications should be restored. However, land and air borders remain closed until further notice.

Long live the glorious people of Guinea! Long live the republic!

CMNR Goals Announced

AB040658 Conakry Domestic Service in French
0550 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Communique No 8]

[Text] People of Guinea, people of Africa, and people of the world! After its first radio broadcasts, you may have been wondering about the intentions of the Military Committee of National Redress [CMRN] which, responding on Tuesday 3 April 1984 to the call of its people, took the destiny of the country into its hands. The present declaration gives our goals which are as follows:

On the domestic scene, we must avoid, people of Guinea, continuing to be victims of internal squabbles of the ruling political class, so that we can create with serenity and security the legitimate happiness for which we are aspiring. First of all, the CMRN would like to reassure each and everyone that its intervention is not directed against any individual, but rather aims at correcting a situation that has lasted too long. That is why it has vowed that nobody will ever have to worry again on account of his ideas. Of course, criminal acts will receive the sanctions their authors deserve. It shoud be understood that the CMRN does not intend to soil its hands with the blood of the sons of the country.

People of Guinea, during the 26 years since you attained independence, from day to day, the hope of seeing the happiness for which you have been aspiring come true has become a mirage while the freedom of your sons was trampled upon. The CMRN intends to make a new start under the following conditions:

First, it vows to ensure national reconciliation and concord, and to respect all rights, especially the right of expression and freedom of movement so that your participation in building a free and prosperous nation can be made possible by the liberation of your initiative. To attain this objective, the CMRN calls on your high sense of good citizenship so that any settling of scores will be avoided.

Second, it vows to assure everyone, individually and collectively, of the security of persons and property, so that each person, with order, cohesion, and discipline, is able to undertake freely any creative activity likely to ensure the happiness of people.

Third, it vows to restore to education and professional training a content which may open the doors of public or private employment to the youth, adults or workers, with equal opportunity.

Fourth, in order to redress the wrecked national economy, the CMRN vows to undertake with you structural reforms, economic reorientation, and the necessary monetary policies for a rational exploitation of our natural resources as a means of encouraging free enterprise, and by ensuring a rapid and logical participation of both nationals and foreign partners.

It is understood that the fruits of this mission of redress will be subjected to an equitable redistribution for all, by giving priority to producers in the rural and urban areas, each one being free to enjoy the profits of his efforts.

Fellow Guineans, in the accomplishment of this mission, the CMRN will need the active support and understanding of each and everyone, for the the legacy it inherited is a heavy one. Every citizen must tighten his belt and set out to work. In fact, to catch up with 26 years of backwardness will demand greater efforts from all.

On the international scene, the Military Committee of National Redress reaffirms:

First, its attachment to the principles of the charters of the United Nations, the OAU, the Nonaligned Movement, as well as international, regional, and subregional organizations of which Guinea is a member.

Second, its commitment to the principles of the universal declaration of human rights, the respect of people's rights, and democratic freedoms.

Third, its commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states and reaffirms that it will never interfere in the internal affairs of any state.

Fourth, it will respect all external commitments entered into on behalf of the people of Guinea.

Fifth, it gives total support to national liberation movements in Africa, the Middle East, and in the world.

Sixth, desirous of promoting, with all countries of the world, intergovernmental and international organizations, a sincere and loyal cooperation which takes into account the sovereignty, the independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Guinea, as well as the African personality, the CMRN extends a sincere hand to all countries of the world. But it will adhere only to ideals that respond to the legitimate aspirations of its people.

Long live the glorious people of Guinea! Long Live the republic!

Normalcy Restored

AB041035 Paris AFP in French 0943 GMT 4 Apr 84

[From AFP's special correspondent Kader Diop]

[Excerpt] Conakry, 4 Apr (AFP) — The soldiers who seized power in Guinea on Tuesday have not set up spectacular army installations in the capital, Conakry, and no sign of agitation could be observed on Wednesday, AFP's special correspondent has reported.

International telephone and telex communications, which were suspended following the coup d'etat, were reestablished late Wednesday morning.

The government buildings in the town are being guarded only by a few soldiers sitting down holding their arms. No armored cars or cannons can be seen at the main squares of the capital, and there is no observable sign of tension.

The Guineans are still talking about yesterday's coup d'etat with reticence. However, according to their first statements to foreign journalists, the people of Conakry seem to have welcomed the new regime with satisfaction.

On Wednesday morning, shops and markets opened normally, as did the government offices. No paralysis of the economic sector has been noted. Children have gone to school.

Regional Officials Appointed

AB041419 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] In accordance with the first communique issued by the Military Committee for National Redress and in application of the order no 003 of 3 April 1984 issued by the governor-general of the Province of Kindia, the following officers are appointed governors of the following administrative regions:

1. Kindia Administrative Region:	Captain Boubacar Mbaye
2. Mamou Administrative Region:	Captain Karamoko (Kara)
3. Dalaba Administrative Region:	Captain Moussa Cissoko
4. Telimele Administrative Region:	Captain (Soleba) Kaba

As military commanders of the above-mentioned areas, the appointees must collaborate and cooperate with all the security services under their supervision. Long live the glorious people of Guinea! Long live the republic!

[Signed] Major Boubacar Ndiaye, governor general of the Province of Kindia.

IVORY COAST

FRATERNITE MATIN on 'Alarming' State of Economy

AB311435 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French
29 Mar 84 pp 11-15

["The Alarming but Not Despairing Situation of the Ivorian Economy" by Diaby Aboubacar]

[Excerpts] If we are not careful, our economic system will disquietingly drift away from the general point of equilibrium that is much sought after and to which we seemed to be drawing closer a few months ago. In fact, in 1982-83, economic activity slowed down. But things were quite all right then: the firms, some of which had been restructured, were still productive and were selling without much difficulty. The consumers, in spite of a change in the structure of consumption, continued to buy; the banks granted loans, and money, in spite of the reduction in its speed of circulation, continued to circulate.

But for the last 4 months the economic situation has been deteriorating. Industry, this pool of economic acivity, has entered a phase of very sharp decline. Firms, which have been strongly affected by the power cuts that were orginally disorderly but were later programmed, are facing not only a fall in production but a noticeable fall in their turnover.

The requirements of the state (following a reduction in the living standard) and of households, have been reduced considerably while international demand, which helped maintain our level of exports, has not recovered from its collapse in spite of the revival (that is still fragile) that has begun in the industrialized countries.

The situation is even more delicate because our industry is mainly export-oriented and some of the very sensitive sectors are seeing their markets exposed to foreign competition. In addition, a great number of our firms are increasingly faced with very serious financial problems — especially the small and medium-scale enterprises — due to the fact that their investing clients, who obey the 20/80 rule, are not very varied. The result is that the state, which is industry's major client, and which has played an important role for nearly 20 years in the promotion of Ivorian firms, has been unable, for some time now, to pay its debts to these firms, and the state owes firms and landlords sums of money running into billions. This state of affairs is disrupting the necessary balance between revenue and expenditure. Also, many firm-to-firm credits remain unpaid, or at least they are being paid with too long delays.

The consequence of these two situations is that several firms are threatened with a stop to their activities and closure and even liquidation, as they are finding it more and more difficult to rebuild the indispensable capital — that is constantly being gnawed at — to cover their running costs: their floating assets (clients, banks, funds) which weaken monthly as compared with short term debts.

And the state, in view of the crushing weight of fiscal pressure, does not favor the revival of these firms, which are finding it more and more difficult to obtain medium- and long-term loans with the commercial banks.

The banking system itself is going through a difficult period at the moment, with serious financial problems. Deposits are few. Many of those who owe the banks are unable to repay their debts; in other words the banking system has more money without than within.

It must be stressed that foreign financiers have contributed to hastening the deterioration of the situation of the banks, especially the national banks. As soon as the first signs of difficulties became apparent, they did not hesitate to withdraw their capital from our banking system that they invested here when all was well; besides they earned huge profits on these investments. By running away from our economy, they have helped to dry up the economic circuits and hasten the general disorder in our economic system.

The invisible hand that used to regulate our economy automatically seems to be halted by a foreign hand. It would be regrettable to let deteriorate such a fine job done under the clairvoyant policy of an illustrious **Man** who has always been guided by his love for his country: One can witness the great progress our country has made on the difficult path of socioeconomic development when one travels around Africa. As compared with several African countries, from the West through the center to the south, the young Ivorian republic, which is just 23 years old, shows off its positive socioeconomic achievements.

Our current difficulties, which are mainly structural, arise from the fact that the rate of development of the operational structures and of the structures for the management of public financial and human resources is not as rapid as that of the economic system as a whole so as to permit better adaptation to the realities of the time.

All hope is not lost. On the contrary, like the thermodynamic system regulated by an entropy, our socioeconomic system is developing from its first state through successive states of disorder into another state of equilibrium.

This change from one state of equilibrium to another, more stable state of equilibrium, calls for a new energy supply to our system to enable it to carry out the change without any hitches and shocks. And in this context we must hail the total democratization of legislative elections which came to infuse new dynamism into the political and economic system as well as the measure to rejuvenate the pyramidal structure of our administrative set up. What remains to be done, among other things, is to make the communication system more fluid and pertinent to the managerial sector.

On the very short term, this means that more money must be injected into the circuit. In order to achieve this the state must try to pay what is owes to the companies by temporarily stopping certain heavy investments that are not of urgent need.

The Ivory Coast possesses the necessary means to come out of the current economic impasse and, stronger than ever, to move up the path of expansion. But to achieve this, it is desirable to bring together around a conference table economists (general monetary, planning, and budgetary experts), organizational technicians, representatives of the banking sector, representatives of the various industrial and commercial sectors, consumers representatives, sociologists knowledgeable about problems caused by development, rural representatives of the agricultural sector especially food production, and to ask them to make a comprehensive and objective diagnosis of the economic system with a free hand and in an informal way and then propose a set of coherent solutions with due consideration to the various constraining factors.

Certainly the outcome of such a roundtable conference would help in formulating optimal and coherent decisions which will be socially acceptable to all.

MALI

Congolese Labor Party Delegation Visits

AB022130 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Within the framework of the cooperation agreement signed between the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM] and the Congolese Labor Party [PCT], a Congolese delegation including Jean-Royal Kississu Boma, member of the Central Committee of the PCT, head of the advance party school of the PCT and chairman of the National Commission of Social Science; and (Zingue Edouard), member of the PCT and head of cooperation at the advanced party school of the PCT, today arrived in the capital. The delegation was welcomed by Abdourahamane Toure, permanent under secretary to the political secretary.

During the audience granted this morning by (Mohamadu al-Amani), secretary for external relations of the Central Executive Bureau of the UDPM, the Congolese delegation disclosed the aim of its visit which falls within the framework of UDPM and PCT cooperation. The delegation said that the two parties are anxious to develop and strengthen their relations through a constant and fruitful exchange of information and experiences, especially as far as the training of the party militants is concerned.

The Congolese delegation, which has already held a working session with the Malian side, will tomorrow call on the political secretary and the UDPM's Central Executive Bureau secretary for organization.

NIGER

Dos Santos Stops Over En Route to Yugoslavia

AB040135 Niamey Domestic Service in French
0600 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The Angolan head of state, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, early this morning made a technical stopover in Niamey on his way to Yugoslavia. He was welcomed on arrival in Niamey by the prime minister, Hamid Algabit. He was later greeted by members of the government and the dean of the Diplomatic Corps.

Two Financial Aid Agreements Signed With France

AB040130 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Two agreements were signed this afternoon between France and Niger at the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. His Excellency Maurice Courage, France's ambassador to Niger, signed on behalf of his country, and Ide Oumarou, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, signed on behalf of Niger.

The first agreement is related to a finacial assistance involving Fr 4.5 million, that is 225 million CFA francs as a subsidy to develop a rice cultivation project in the Niger River Valley.

As for the second agreement, it concerns financial assistance involving Fr 3.7 million, that is 170 million CFA francs as a subsidy for the implementation of the draft project for Niamey's big market reconstruction.

The sides expressed satisfaction with the signing of the agreements which have further strenthened the close links of cooperation between the Niger and French peoples.

NIGERIA

Talks To Be Held With USSR on Southern Africa

AB040125 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Nigeria is to hold talks with the Soviet Union on the possibility of cooperation to assist Angola and Mozambique against pressures from racist South Africa. The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, is expected to travel to Moscow in the near future to discuss with his Soviet counterpart a common approach to the southern African issue. This was stated by the head of state today at Dodan Barracks while receiving the Soviet ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Vladimir Snegyrev.

General Buhari remarked that the two countries shared identical views on matters such as the elimination of racism and apartheid in South Africa and the termination of South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia. He expressed Nigeria's appreciation of the progress made by the Soviet Union on the construction of the Ajaokuta steel complex.

On the international scene, the head of state called for the elimination of threat of nuclear war, adding that greater efforts were needed for the promotion of detente, world peace, and security.

The Soviet ambassador delivered a message to the head of state from the president of the Supreme Soviet in which the USSR expresses support and solidarity with the Federal Military Government.

Buhari Meets With Special Envoy of Cameroon's Biya

AB022140 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The political evolution in Cameroon is an internal affair which Nigeria will not interfere with in accordance with the OAU Charter. The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, told the special envoy of President Paul Biya of Cameroon, Christopher (Usalia) that Nigeria would continue to understand the problems of her neighbors and cooperate with them in finding solutions conducive to peace in the West African region. Gen Buhari said that he appreciated the efforts made by President Biya to brief him on the political developments in Cameroon and assured the special envoy that the main interest of Nigeria was to see that peace prevailed in that country.

Mr (Usalia), who is also a minister in the Presidency, had briefed the head of state on the political developments in his country and asked for Nigeria's support and understanding. The envoy said that President Biya decided to send the special message to Gen Buhari because of the importance Cameroon attached to her relationship with Nigeria.

FCTA Dissolved; FCDA Created for Abuja Project

AB022215 Dakar PANA in English 1009 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Lagos, 2 April (NAN/PANA) — Nigeria's Federal Capital Territory Administration, FCTA, has been dissolved, minister of the territory, Maj-Gen Mamman Vatsa, announced in Lagos on Friday.

The minister told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that the FCTA was dissolved to avoid what he called unnecessary overhead cost.

Maj-Gen Vatsa said that a new department had been created to take care of the responsibilities of the dissolved FCTA.

Maj-Gen Vatsa said that the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) had recovered more than 1 million naira from contractors who could not perform after receiving mobilization fees.

The minister said that some contractors who abandoned their projects were back on site, even without being paid because of their confidence in the new administration in the territory.

The minister confirmed that 1.3 billion naira had been so far spent in the development of the new capital.

Maitatsine Follower Given 9-Month Prison Term

AB040250 Lagos NAN in English 1206 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Yola, April 3 (NAN) — A 30-year-old Muslim, Yahaya Muhammadu, described by the police as a follower of "Maitatsine" was yesterday sentenced to nine month's imprisonment by a Yola magistrate's court. The prosecution had told the court that Muhammadu, of no fixed address, was arrested on March 22 at Jimeta, Yola, carrying "deadly weapons." The prosecution said that two knives were recovered from Muhammadu and that he was unable to give satisfactory reasons for going about the town with the objects. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge and begged the court for leniency.

On the second charge of idleness, the accused pleaded not guilty and further hearing was fixed for April 30.

Idiagbon: FMG To Complete Projects of Old Regime

AB022110 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] In Nigeria, all uncompleted projects embarked upon by the ousted administration are to be completed by the Federal Military Government. This was stated today at Dodan Barracks by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, while exchanging views with a delegation of the Okong Development Association from Kwara state. Brigadier Idiagbon emphasized that such projects would be completed before embarking on any other meaningful projects. He added that the government was busy settling both internal and external debts so that the nation could be in a better position to look into other essential areas of development.

Air Staff Chief on Current Air Force Maneuvers

AB022201 Lagos NAN in English 1215 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Calabar, April 2 (NAN) — The chief of Air Staff, Air Vice Marshall Ibrahim Alfa, has said in Calabar that the current Air Force manoeuvres in Cross River was one of many such exercises scheduled to take place throughout the country.

Briefing newsmen, Air Vice Marshall Alfa said that the exercise was part of the Air Force's programme to ensure that its personnel were trained in the environment in which they were to fight, as well as improving their performances. He explained that the Air Force's plan to establish a base in Calabar was to reduce its "reaction time" to any threat to the stability of the country.

Speaking on the past border clashes in which some Nigerians were killed, Air Vice Marshal Alfa said, "Now I don't think anyone can kill a Nigerian and go scot-free".

Answering reporters' questions, the chief of Air Staff revealed that the Nigerian Air Force was by far the strongest "in our region of influence". He urged able-bodied Nigerians to seek a career in the Air Force, adding that the physical fitness it required for its fighter pilots was such that only very few persons qualified, but said that there were other interesting professions in the Air Force.

FMG Working on More Dynamic Agricultural Plan

AB021240 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 2 Par 84

[Excerpts] The Federal Military Government [FMG] is working out a more dynamic agricultural plan for the country. In this direction the government intends to carry out a thorough shakeup of the river basin development authorities to make them more effective and eliminate waste. The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, disclosed this yesterday while speaking on a radio Nigeria public affairs program "Matters of the Moment."

Brigadier Idiagbon said that the Federal Government was fully aware that the river basin authorities had performed poorly in the past and assured that efforts were being made to inject new blood into them. All these steps, the chief of staff emphasized, were necessary to improve farming and boost food production to which the Federal Government is currently paying great attention. He pointed out that the FMG also planned to review the National Youth Service Corps scheme, especially the community development program to include farming and food production.

Commenting on oil trafficking, Brig Idiagbon disclosed that all those caught in illegal sale of the country's crude oil are to be tried by a special antisabotage military tribunal. He stressed that the Federal Government was committed to tackling the problem of pilfering the oil seriously. [sentence as heard] To this end Federal Government agencies have been geared toward the effective (?management) of the country's crude oil in order to avoid the situation.

ANGOLA

PCP's Cunhal Begins Talks With Dos Santos

MB031922 Luanda ANGOP in French 1200 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Luanda, 3 Apr (ANGOP) — The general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP], Mr Alvaro Cunhal, arrived yesterday morning in Luanda for an official visit to the People's Republic of Angola at the invitation of the MPLA-Labor Party.

On his arrival, in a brief statement to the press the PCP leader pointed out that his visit to Angola is within the framework of the links of friendship and cooperation that have existed between the two parties since several years ago.

He then denounced the anti-Angola campaign undertaken in his country by some Portuguese reactionary media, particularly the official press, and he cited the documentary presented by the Portuguese Television last Sunday on a UNITA military base.

Meanwhile the talks between the MPLA-Labor Party, led by Jose Eduardo dos Santos, and PCP, led by Alvaro Cunhal, started in Luanda yesterday.

According to an official program drawn up on the occasion, the PCP leader should have laid a wreath of flowers in the tomb of President Agostinho Neto yesterday afternoon. This (? is to be done before) he begins travelling to the province of [name indistinct].

150 Soviet Workers Provide Medical Aid

MB031454 Luanda ANGOP in French 1200 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Luanda, 3 Apr (ANGOP) — About 150 Soviet foreign aid workers are working in the People's Republic of Angola to provide medical assistance to the Angolan population by organizing a health system, combating epidemic diseases, and treating the Armed Forces and civilian population, all victims of the South African aggression.

The Angolan-Soviet cooperation in the health field started just after the proclamation of independence in 1975, and since then (?about) 2 million Angolan people have benefitted from Soviet medical assistance and the medical staff, which is (?spread) throughout the Angolan territory.

New Assistent Commissioner Named in Namibe

MB040926 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the Angolan head of state, has issued a decree relieving Comrade (Austidio Pereira da Silva) from his post as the assistant provincial commissioner of Namibe. In another decree, the supreme leader of the party and nation appointed Comrade Joao Maria Rodrigues Tavares to the post of assistant provincial commissioner of Namibe.

LESOTHO

Prime Minister Declares National Food Emergency

MB041420 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] The prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, today declared a state of national food emergency in Lesotho because of the protracted drought conditions that have afflicted not only Lesotho but the whole of southern Africa during the past 3 years.

The prime minister made this declaration in a statement he made in Parliament. Dr Jonathan said the continuing drought was worse this season than the last season. The prime minister said that according to information supplied by the minister of agriculture and marketing, Lesotho will have a total grain shortfall of 310,000 metric tons this year, of which 160,000 tons will be directly due to the drought. He said the balance of 150,000 tons will consist of essential imports and food aid.

Refering to livestock, the prime minister said that in most parts of the country their condition was said to be satisfactory at present. He said, however, that despite the recent rain, grazing conditions were generally poor and likely to deteriorate with the onset of winter.

The prime minister said that unless Lesotho gets assistance in cash or kind, the year ahead is going to be very hard. He said already there were reports of serious malnutrition, especially among children, in some parts of the country. He said in other areas, especially in the southern district, there was a shortage of drinking water for both human beings and livestock.

Dr Jonathan has also expressed thanks to those countries and international organizations that responded quickly and generously to his appeal in March last year. The prime minister said Basotho were thankful to the World Food Program, and to the Governments of the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany, and Sweden, whose commodities have already been delivered and are already being distributed among the needy. He thanked the European Economic Community and the Government of Canada and the United States for their assistance with water supplies, especially in the southern districts, in some areas of which clean drinking is now available.

The prime minister said that Lesotho was looking forward to receiving promised supplies and to general participation by countries and organizations that have not yet committed themselves. Besides measures to combat this adverse situation, the prime minister appealed to farmers to plant winter crops, because if successful, they will [word indistinct] Basotho until the 1984-85 crops are ready. He also appealed to Basotho to conserve as much as possible of this season's harvest. Farmers should refrain from selling grain unless they have to.

With regard to livestock, Dr Jonathan appealed to livestock farmers to reduce their number, especially the poor ones, by converting some of them into money which can be saved and used to purchase food when necessary. He urged farmers to provide supplimentary feed for the livestock they wish to keep. This can be done by conserving maize and maize stalks and planting fodder crops like barley and oats, the prime minister concluded.

Sixishe Says No ANC Bases Inside Country

MB040538 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Lesotho says there are no ANC bases inside its territory. That is according to Lesotho's information minister, Desmond Sixishe. In an address to reporters yesterday, Sixishe said that most of the 131 South African refugees in the country had left Lesotho since the December 1982 raid by South African forces. He also said there was no need for Lesotho to sign a peace accord with South Africa.

MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo Ceremony To Hail Machel Role in Accord

MB031452 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] A solemn ceremony will be held in Maputo next Thursday to hail President Samora Machel for the signing of the Nkomati accord between the Governments of Mozambique and South Africa. The People's Assembly Standing Commission, as the representative body of the supreme organ of the state, decided to hold this ceremony and stresses that such a ceremony is aimed at paying homage to Marshal Samora Machel, president of the Republic, for his personal involvement and decisive role in the successful outcome of the talks that led to the signing of the Nkomati accord.

Cuamba Rally Praises Accord

MB041340 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Over 10,000 people took part in a demonstration of support for the nonaggression and good neighborliness accord between the Governments of Mozambique and South Africa in Cuamba District, Niassa Province, a few days ago. The climax of the demonstration was a mass rally which was presided over by the administrator of the district, who briefed the demonstrators on the meaning of the Nkomati accord. A similar rally was also held in Mandimba District, in Niassa, while the residents of Lichinga are expected to hail the Nkomati accord next Saturday.

Defense Officials Laud Portuguese Military Project

MB031029 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Members of the Portuguese military who have been in Mozambique for about 2 years preparing plans for the construction of the Manhica political military training center officially presented the project in Maputo today. Remarks by Dr Tomas Salomao, Mozambique secretary of state for defense, indicate that the project has been well prepared; he stated that it was the first time that a project has been prepared without omitting the slightest detail.

The ceremony was also attended by Dr Paulouro das Neves, Portuguese ambassador to Mozambique. The ambassador said that the work carried out by the Portuguese military engineering technical mission has clearly proven that it is possible to develop fruitful relations which can bring the two countries together.

[Begin Neves recording] The mission that this military engineering team has carried out in Mozambique was a peaceful task which fits its motto: "To build, wherever it may be." By chance, the accomplishment of the team's work coincided with the fulfillment of the peace initiative which President Samora Machel, with the lucidity and courage of a great statesmen, recently embodied with the signing of the Nkomati accord. This accord might open a chapter of stability and progress in southern Africa. In this new era, which we all hope will come about soon and be strengthened, the Mozambique Armed Forces — an important factor in national unity — will assume (?extensive) responsibilities for the defense and strengthening of the country's development.

As you already know, Mr Secretary of State, Portugal has been expressing its availability to cooperate in the various fields in which its experience and technical expertise may help us along this path of progress. Our presence here today is only to reaffirm this will. [end recording]

Secretary of State for Defense Tomas Salomao said that the starting point for all cooperation between the Mozambique and Portuguese Armed Forces was the visit made by the minister of national defense to Lisbon in 1982. In fact, it was about that same time that the Portuguese military engineering technical mission, led by Lieutenant Colonel (Pinto Soares), began work on the preparation of the Manhica center project.

[Begin Salomao recording] Actually, this center, which was basically conceived by Marshal Samora Moises Machel, our commander in chief and president of the Republic, came into existence in 1982. It has deserved all of our attention, which is why our comrades have taken part in the preparatory work for the project. We must honestly say with all our heart that the work that has been carried out since then is commendable and worthy of mention. As I discussed with the minister of construction in the presence of Engineer (Rui) less then 2 hours ago, this is the first time that we have a project in our country which covers every aspect, from the most basic to the most complex. This project effectively enables a complete assessment of all necessary elements in order to move to the next stage: the construction work. For this reason, we cannot praise too much the work that this military engineering technical mission has carried out in our country. [end recording]

Dr Tomas Salomao said that the gesture showed the increased efforts to develop friendship between the Mozambique Armed Forces and the Portuguese Armed Forces. The secretary of state expressed the desire to immediately move into the second phase of the work, that is, construction of the planned center, which will also be carried out with the Portuguese cooperation. In fact, talks with Portuguese civil construction enterprises are under way. The secretary of state said that it was his belief that the talks will be successful.

The documents on the project were signed by Major (Alfredo Chamussora), chief of the Defense Ministry's Department of International Relations, for the Ministry of National Defense, and Lt Col (Pinto Soares), chief of the mission which carried out the project, for the Portuguese military. After signing the documents, the two officials exchanged documents and greetings. Lt Col (Pinto Soares) told Radio Mozambique that his mission received special attention from the Mozambique military authorities as well as from other ministries involved in the building of the Manhica center.

Satellite Telecommunications Pact Signed With France

AB011320 Paris AFP in English 1152 GMT 1 Apr 84

[Text] Maputo, April 1 (AFP) — Mozambique yesterday signed an agreement with the French Telspace Company for the construction of a satellite telecommunications system linking Mozambique's three major cities, Maputo, Beira and Nampula. When the system is completed, by the end of 1985, there will also be direct telecommunications links with Malawi, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Under the present system, telephone and telex links with some of these countries have to be routed through Lisbon and London. A separate agreement with "France Cable et Radio" provides for the training of Mozambique technicians to maintain and operate the system.

The entire project, which will cost about 18 million dollars, is being financed by the French Government lending agency, Caisse Centrale de Cooperation Economique, and by the Kuwait Fund.

France has also granted Mozambique credits worth eight million dollars to help boost copra production in the Quelimane region of Zambezia Province and to improve land use near the capital, Maputo, the Mozambique news agency AIM reported.

OJM Signs Agreement With PRC Youth League

MB301605 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] The Mozambique Youth Organization [OJM] and the PRC Youth League signed in Maputo today a friendship and cooperation protocol.

The document was signed on the Mozambique side by Bonaventura Afonso, a member of the National Secretariat of the organization, and on the Chinese side by Liu Yupu, head of PRC Youth League delegation which is visiting our country.

The protocol, it was pointed out on the occasion of the signing, reflects the aspirations of both youth organizations to promote and strengthen their links of friendship and cooperation.

Liu Yupu said that the youth of both countries can through this document learn from and help each other. On its practical implementation, Liu Yupu said that it is possible to immediately exchange documents, books, and photographs on the activity and life of the two organizations.

The protocol also covers the exchange of delegations. According to Liu Yupu, the PRC Youth League can aid the OJM in the fields of volunteer work, culture, and sports.

NAMIBIA

DTA Leaders Hail Role of Multiparty Conference

Riruaka Address in Windhoek

MB031816 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 28 Mar 84 pp 1, 3

[Report: "Multiparty Conference Will Not Be Threatened"]

[Text] "If we are shot at, we will shoot back. If we are sad, we will grieve, but if there is war, we will fight." This was stated by Mr Kuaima Riruaka, the leader of the National United Democratic Organization [NUDO] and president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, yesterday at Katutura, when he discussed the political developments of the past few days.

"The search for peace by the multiparty conference should not be mistaken for weakness," Mr Riruaka said, addressing hundreds of residents of Katutura and people from Windhoek during a political show of strength at the Clemens Kapuuo memorial celebrations. There were shouts of derision when speakers referred to the decision by the Damara Council to leave the multiparty conference.

Hundreds of people stood shoulder to shoulder inside the Herero House long before the meeting and welcomed the members of the multiparty conference with spontaneous applause. Choirs alternated with scripture readings and prayer. During the first part of the program, the gathering was addressed by Mr Riruaka, Chief Elifas Tjingaete, Mr Piet Junius, Mr Gregor Tibinyane, Mr Daniel Luipert, and Mr A.J.F. Kloppers.

The proceedings were filmed by, among others, a German television team. Strict security was maintained by the NUDO youths, and the movement was also responsible for the excellent arrangements throughout the evening.

Mr Riruaka went on: "Our search is for peace. But if this is ignored we will act. That is not an empty threat. I mean every word I say. I know of a party which is trying to buy off other parties from the multiparty conference. We are aware of what has happened among the membership of the multiparty conference. This was only the first attempt. Rest assured, the second attempt will not succeed!"

Mr A.J.F. Kloppers of the Christian Democratic Union, in his address, called each leader of the multiparty conference by name, and said they are the ones who will lead South-West Africa/Namibia on the last stretch to the promised land.

"We hear of storms raging around the multiparty conference," Mr Kloppers said. "Do not think we fear those who leave the multiparty conference for a few cents. We in the multiparty conference have the will and the grit to overcome. We are going to do it."

Mudge Speech Assails SWAPO

MB040700 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 28 Mar 84 pp 1,16

[Text] Cape Town — SWAPO is not conducting its campaign of terror in order to free South-West Africa from South Africa. Its campaign is in fact directed at the other political parties in the territory, and is an attempt to force itself on the country as the future ruler.

This was said by Mr Dirk Mudge, chairman of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance and leader of the Republican Party, when he addressed a dinner given by the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce yesterday. He later enlarged on some aspects of his address in an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation.

Mr Mudge said there is absolutely no need for an armed struggle for the independence of South West Africa/Namibia, because South Africa had committed itself to the independence of the territory years ago.

SWAPO's terrorist campaign is an attempt to ensure that it will eventually be the sole ruler of South-West Africa. Up to now SWAPO has bluntly refused to discuss the future of the territory with other political parties.

Since the creation of the multiparty conference [MPC], SWAPO has been invited to take part in order that the right of the people of self-determination over the future of the territory could be exercised. SWAPO has rejected the invitation and tried to create the impression that it does not fear the MPC and that it does not expect the MPC to achieve anything.

In reality, it has done its utmost to undermine the MPC, because it sees this body as a serious threat. The fact that one of the member parties of the MPC — the Damara Council of Mr Justus Garoeb — withdrew from the conference this week is a direct result of SWAPO's interference. SWAPO had tried using the same tactics on another member party — Mr Moses Katjiuonga's South-West Africa National Union — but without success. "Mr Katjiuonga remains a member, and the MPC continues," said Mr Mudge.

With regard to claims that the MPC is acting in conflict with Resolution 435 by starting to draw up a constitution for the territory, and that all Namibia's political parties are not represented, Mr Mudge said the MPC cannot wait for an election to solve all the country's problems.

The leaders of the MPC realize that problems have arisen over the years, and are giving attention to these. They do not necessarily intend to have the final say in the drawing up of a constitution, but at the least the various political leaders can reach consensus in this way and develop an understanding of each other. It is for this reason that the MPC is continuing.

"Those not in the MPC should not blame us for going ahead. They should blame themselves for not being with us. SWAPO will simply have to accept that there is no chance of it alone deciding on the political future of South-West Africa/Namibia. SWAPO's claim that it is the only true representative of the territory is totally unacceptable to us. Whether it likes the idea or not, it will have to take part in the MPC or be left behind. If it refuses to accept that now, it will learn its lesson later, the hard way," Mr Mudge said.

On the question of independence, Mr Mudge said African states and the international community apparently believe that all that is needed to gain independence is an election, and that thereafter everything would right itself. Resolution 435 makes provision for the holding of elections under UN supervision.

Mr Mudge said he was totally in favor of independence. As a democrat, he supported an election, but it is his belief that it is not sufficient to have a competition among political parties, raise a flag, and sing an anthem. The history of Africa has already shown that an election is no guarantee for peace.

He rejected allegations that the people of South-West Africa do not take their future seriously, and that there is too much infighting among themselves. More has been done in the territory to prepare the people for independence than was done in any other country in Africa. People from all parts of the country — from different races, language groups, cultures, and backgrounds — have been brought together, something which has not even been done in South Africa yet. This process had begun with the Turnhalle talks and the National Assembly, and is being continued with the MPC.

Mr Mudge said the people of South-West Africa are trying to avoid the mistakes made in some African states. In those states, whites had been driven out as enemies. This was a pity, as their skills and experience could be a great benefit to those countries.

There is still suspicion and alienation in South-West Africa among the various race groups, but tremendous progress has been made towards ending this. Whatever happened in South-West Africa, the people of the territory at least have the opportunity for peaceful coexistence because the population has already moved in the direction of national unity.

Unfortunately, the final decision on when the country would become independent rested not with the people of South-West Africa, but with the great powers. The West wants the Cubans out of Angola, and the Russians wants them to remain.

"Because I, as a white, identify with the struggle for independence, I insist that we be allowed to complete the process of independence," Mr Mudge said.

He concluded by saying he believed a peaceful solution for the territory would be found.

Security Forces Report Killing Nine Terrorists

MB041252 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] The South-West African Territory Force says nine terrorists have been shot dead in skirmishes with members of the security forces in the operational area during the past week. This brings to 135 the number of terrorists killed since the latest inflitration began on 16 February. The security forces have launched an intensive search for the infiltrators, but the action is hampered by weather conditions at this time of the year and the fact that terrorists are now operating in civilian clothes. Several attempts to sabotage telephone lines have been reported during the past week.

Ja Toivo, Nujoma 'Collective Leadership' Portrayed

MB040524 Lusaka Voice of Namibia in English 1830 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Excerpt from "One Namibia, One Nation" program]

[Excerpt] By imprisoning Toivo ja Toivo, he became a people's hero: Ja Toivo, a cofounder member of SWAPO; Ja Toivo, a graduate prisoner of Robben Island after 15 years. Ja Toivo, after his release, joined the rank and file of SWAPO. The motive behind Comrade ja Toivo's release was that he must become the leader of the multiparty conference, which wants to challenge SWAPO in elections. South Africa and the puppets thought Ja Toivo was hungry for power. They have always tried to sow confusion among the Namibian people, and to mislead the world that, when Ja Toivo is released, he would take over from Comrade Sam Nujoma, the president of SWAPO.

It is time for those who do not know SWAPO and its entire membership to understand that SWAPO is not a race of leadership which is competing for position. SWAPO is guided by principles, especially the principle of collective leadership and democracy. Comrade Ja Toivo and Comrade Nujoma are components among leaders who form a collective leadership. SWAPO is the people, and the people are SWAPO.

Interview With SWAPO UN Observer Gurirab

MB291133 Lusaka Voice of Namibia in English 1830 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Interview with Theo-Ben Gurirab, SWAPO permanent observer to the United Nations, by Saaki Nambyongo; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Nambyongo] Comrade Gurirab, what are your views about the question of Namibian independence at the present moment, and what do you think is the best way to achieve it?

[Gurirab] Thank you very much for welcoming me back. I am happy to have this opportunity to talk to the Namibian people and to listeners of the Voice of Namibia right at the beginning of a new year, 1984; a year that I believe will be a trying year with many problems; a year that I believe also holds out promises of independence for Namibia in this year that was declared by the president of SWAPO as the year of Namibia's independence. The struggle of Namibian people has entered a critical phase. The struggle that the Namibian people are waging on all fronts under the banner of SWAPO will indeed continue. Inside our country our people continue to rally behind SWAPO, assuming the responsibilities incumbent upon them as the patriots of Namibia.

On the diplomatic front, we continue to mobilize support for our cause from progressive governments and peoples. From international organizations and solidarity groups, this generosity and goodwill continue to flow in our direction. On the military front, the combatants of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia continue to spearhead the struggle for the freedom of our country. But there are some activities currently emanating from Pretoria or from Washington. The indications are ominous for the situation in Namibia. The voices are confusing — voices that seek to distort the struggle in Namibia by trying to turn it into an East-West conflict, whereas in fact the struggle in Namibia is a decolonization struggle, it is the struggle of the Namibian people to regain their land, to liberate their resources, to liberate their energies for reconstruction. These forces — Washington and Pretoria — have injected extraneous and irrelevant issues generally referred to as linkages, such as preconditioning Namibia's independence to the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist forces that are in Angola at the invitation of the government of the day here to assist the Angolan people to repel racist aggression against their country, such as making a withdrawal of South African forces which are illegally occupying parts of this country — Angola — one of the factors in the arrangements that may lead to cease-fire between SWAPO and South Africa. So right at the beginning of the year we are seeing a continuation of some of the problems that we have been grappling with, but we are also seeing at the same time the readiness of the international community, the readiness of other people, or, indeed, the readiness of the combatants of SWAPO fighting under the banner of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia to continue the struggle. We have seen advances and achievements. We have also encountered setbacks or defeats for the struggle here today.

[Nambyongo] The secretary general of the United Nations, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, just made a statement in Miami that the true independence of Namibia will possibly be achieved early next year, since most of the issues have been solved, and only the election issue is not yet completely solved. How true is this, or is it only optimism?

[Gurirab] The secretary general of the United Nations has been most reassuring and forthright in demonstrating his concern for Namibia's early independence, and listeners will recall that he undertook a mission in August last year to South Africa, to Namibia, and to Angola, in order to see whether by that action he could accelerate the process of Namibia's decolonization. True to form, South Africa prevaricated and obfuscated, and instead of coming out stright forwardly in response to the questions put to them by the secretary general's team, once again offered obstacles which will obstruct independence. Indeed, all the outstanding issues, even some of the extraneous and irrelevant issues raised by South Africa after the illegal fiasco, had been addressed and resolved. There are no longer any thorny problems on the question of Namibia. What remains to be done is for the two political parties to the armed conflict in Namibia, namely SWAPO and racist South Africa, to get together at the earliest opportunity to discuss the final details of the cease-fire called for under the UN plan, thus triggering the implementation process. We are encouraged by the involvement of the secretary general in this process, and we are ready to cooperate with him towards finding an early solution to Namibia's independence problem.

[Nambyongo] Direct cease-fire meetings between SWAPO and South Africa have been agreed upon by both parties. Now, Comrade Ben, do you think the Boers are just playing a sort of sycophantic diplomacy, as was the case at the general meeting in 1981?

[Gurirab] It is very difficult to try to read the minds of the racists in Pretoria. After all, their record is well known — the record of defiance, the record of belligerance, the record of aggression, the record of destabilization, the record of promises broken, indeed, record of criminality, illegal occupation, and what have you. We took them on the promise they have made with the media, that they are ready to meet us. For our part, we have remained ready, prepared, willing to meet with the racists, recognizing that it would take SWAPO and South Africa to resolve the outstanding issues and to arrive at a solution to the Namibian problem. For our part, we are sincere, we are serious, and we are challenging South African to reciprocate our generosity.

[Nambyongo] What effect do you think the U.S. presidential election will have on the final solution of the Namibian question?

[Gurirab] Well, it is too early to speculate on what the outcome of the American presidential elections will be. There are many outstanding candidates on the Democratic side. Of course, we know that the incumbent President is Ronald Reagan, the author of the so-called constructive engagement policy, which has turned out to be an antiliberation movement, particularly anti-SWAPO — a policy in which South Africa has been engaged to carry out acts of destabilization and aggression throughout southern Africa; a policy under which South Africa has allocated to itself the right to invade the People's Republic of Angola, as we have seen in the past couple of weeks. So, therefore, it is still early to forcast as to what the consequences of the outcome of the American presidential elections would be. The reelection of President Reagan would be a disaster for SWAPO, for the Namibian cause, indeed for Africa as a whole. We leave it to the great people of the United States of America, who must realise by now the dangerous course embarked upon by their administration — war-mongering, militarism, interventionism, interference and, indeed, naked invasion of progressive countries — [word indistinct] policies which spell disaster not only for Africa, but indeed for the United States as well. Therefore, we hope that there will be a conscious decision by the American public that would save humanity from the consequences of the dangerous policies now being pursued by Washington.

[Nambyongo] Comrade Gurirab, what do you think is most important and necessary at this crucial juncture of our liberation struggle, for the unity of our people at home?

[Gurirab] Now, as always, the first precondition for an effective struggle is the unity of our people. SWAPO recognized this reality long ago, and has always endeavored to bring together all the Namibia people under the banner of SWAPO. We have continued to touch base with different sections of the Namibian population, regardless of color, ethnicity, and region, in order to politically mobilize our people so that they fully and more actively participate in the liberation process. We will continue to emphasize the importance of unity, to close the ranks of the oppressed people of Namibia, and to ensure that the struggle for the liberation of Namibia is indeed proceeded by our people as a patriotic duty of all the Namibian masses. Reassured by the support that we have received in the past and that we continue to enjoy from the masses of the Namibian people, we know that the forces fighting under the banner of the people's liberation of Namibia will continue and carry out their assigned tasks. They will expand the war, they will broaden the scope of operations, and more Namibian people recognized that the enemy is using every conceivable trick to sow division and dissension among the Namibian people, using agents, traitors, and puppets, such as the current jamboree of the so-called multiparty conference, where spent forces, disgruntled politicians and opportunists are gathered to promote their interests, not the interests of the Namibian people. We have had similar gatherings in the past — the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance], the Council of Ministers, National Assembly, Constituent Assembly — but because the Namibian people have boycotted these institutions, they have failed. This current exercise, too, will fail. But what is also called for on the part of our people is vigilance, and that they would identify these traitors and puppets and reject them, and that, finally, we are confident that victory is ours because the cause of Namibia today is the cause of the United Nations — indeed, it is the cause of the overwhelming majority of the peace-loving and justice- upholding mankind. With that kind of support, and with the commitment of our people, victory is ours.

[Nambyongo] Finally, Comrade Ben, as a message to the Namibian people, do you have anything to say on this year 1984, which is marking 100 years of colonial rule in our country?

[Gurirab] Recognizing that come November 1984, centenary of the infamous Berlin Conference will be marked, this year 1984 is crucial, marking as it does 100 years of colonial domination, oppression, and exploitation in our country. It is in recognition of this fact that SWAPO has declared 1984 as the year of Namibia's independence. Therefore, as I have just said, it is important, more than ever before, for the Namibian people to fully and actively assume their patriotic duty as their own liberators. We call upon the Namibian patriots to rally in even greater numbers behind SWAPO. We call upon all the sections of the Namibian people, including the whites, to rally behind SWAPO. We call, indeed, upon the traitors and the puppets, who today — because of their personal interests and selfish concerns — are participating in the plunder of the mineral wealth and exploitation of human resources in our country to recognize ... [changes thought] We know that puppets and traitors and opportunists follow where money moves. But by joining the masses of the Namibian people, we hope that they will redeem themselves. When independence comes there will be place for them, once they renounce their chicanery, duplicity, and collaboration with the enemy. There is room for all the Namibian people. Our country is a resource-rich country. When all the Namibian people pull together, combine their creative energies and resources, and their labor, indeed we can achieve greatness in Namibia.

We can redeem the dignity of our people, and together we can exploit the abundant resources of Namibia for the well-being of all the Namibian people. That is my message to the Namibian people.

[Nambyongo] That was Comrade Theo-Ben Gurirab, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of SWAPO, and SWAPO's permanent observer at the United Nations, the Americas, and the Caribbean.

SOUTH AFRICA

Le Grange: ANC 'No Doubt' Behind Durban Bombing

MB031353 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1343 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] Cape Town, April 3, SAPA — The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, today said he had no doubt the ANC was behind the bomb blast in Durban this morning.

It was a "cowardly and senseless act," that had killed three people and injured 16, he said in a statement released in Cape Town. "Although nobody has yet claimed responsibility, I have no doubt that the ANC is responsible for this atrocity, and it confirms their reckless attacks on the innocent members of the public, including women and children."

Mr le Grange expressed his sympathy to the relatives of the people who had died in the explosion and to the injured. He said the incident emphasised the "desperation" of South Africa's enemies and confirmed that the country's security forces had to be ready at all times to fight terrorism ruthlessly.

Opposition Parties Score Bombing

MB031656 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, says although no one has accepted responsibility for the Durban bomb explosion this morning in which three people were killed and 14 injured, he has no doubt that the ANC was responsible.

Speaking in Cape Town, he described the explosion as a cowardly and meaningless act, and said the police would do everything possible to find those who perpetrated the deed. All decent people, he said, would condemn the act. He expressed his sympathy for the families of those killed in the explosion.

Mr le Grange said the incident emphasized the desperation of South Africa's enemies, as well as the need for its security forces to be strong and well-prepared at all times.

The explosion has been denounced by all three opposition parties in the assembly. The leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Vause Raw, described the attack as a clear attempt by the ANC to prove it had not been neutralised by the Accord of Nkomati. He said although his party deplored the act, it was its view that South Africa should not be tempted into abandoning the course of peace.

Mr (Brian Goodall) of the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] said his party condemned this sort of violence since it benefitted no one. In Johannesburg, the South African Council of Churches has issued a statement condemning the explosion.

The woman killed in the bomb explosion has been identified as Mrs Erica Sigrid-Green of 85 Colchester House, Smith Street in Durban. The names of the two other victims, a black man and an Indian woman, have not yet been released. Work teams have nearly completed clearing operations at the entrance to the Durban Harbor area, where the powerful bomb exploded in peak-hour traffic at about 0730 this morning. Police experts have established that the car in which the bomb was planted had been stolen. Several cars and neighboring buildings were damaged in the explosion, and 14 people were injured by flying glass. The condition of those admitted to hospital has been described as satisfactory.

Police Studying Detonation

MB040738 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Police have not yet worked out how the killer car bomb in Durban was set off. No one has yet claimed responsibility for the bombing which rocked the city's bay front early yesterday morning. Carmel Rickard has this report.

[Rickard] The names of all three people killed in yesterday's bomb blast in Durban are now known. They are (Daya Rangasamy) and his wife (Gilabathi), of Phoenix, and Miss Erica Green of Smith Street. This morning Durban's police public relations officer, Piet Meiring, says that although the formalities have not yet been completed by the families it is sure that these were in fact the three victims.

A Durban morning paper reports that the explosion was caused by a massive charge of TNT and plastics explosives triggered either by a radio or a timing device. Piet Meiring says that as far as he knows, this has not been confirmed. Yesterday's bomb, which detonated at 0730 in heavy early morning traffic, was in or under a car stolen in Durban last week. Apart from the three people killed, at least 20 were injured, although last night only four were still in hospital and their condition was described as satisfactory.

Police experts have gone to Durban to help in the inquiry into the bombing. Experts from the police bomb squad and members of police forensic laboratory who investigated last year's Pretoria car bombing have been flown to Durban from Pretoria to assist in the investigation. In the Pretoria blast 16 people were killed and nearly 200 others injured.

Commentary Says Terrorism 'Expected'

MB031930 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Station commentary: "The Durban Car Bomb Blast"]

[Text] Almost a year ago the country was shocked by a car bomb explosion in Pretoria, the first time that this particular form of terrorist action was perpetrated in South Africa. The ANC claimed responsibility for the deed, which caused 20 deaths and injury to more than 200 people. Retribution by the Defense Force was swift, with a successful raid on ANC Headquarters in Maputo, where the deed had been planned. Today's car bomb explosion in Durban, relatively mild in comparison in terms of the numbers killed and injured, should be seen as a cowardly act of defiance on the part of anti-South African terrorists. As such, it was to be expected.

The Nkomati accord signed last month between South Africa and Mozambique, and a similar agreement last week between the Republic and Swaziland, were designed to clamp down on terrorist organizations by depriving them of material and logistic support. The agreements were not miracle cures, and it was to be expected that the affected terrorist organizations would react in the only way they know how. Similar deeds may occur again in the short term, but the security arrangements being forged between South Africa and her neighbors are diminishing even further the poor long-term prospects for terrorism in the country.

In a recent paper on the subject, Mr (Keith Campbell), a lecturer in the Department of International Relations at the University of the Witwatersrand, concludes that the prospects of the ANC succeeding in its terrorist campaign are bleak. Among the reasons for this, he says, is that over more than 20 years of external propaganda and internal effort, the ANC has made no significant impact on either foreign public opinion or the internal order of South Africa.

While the organization enjoys considerable support at the international level, this is useless without bases to operate from within the subcontinent. With these bases now being removed, the ANC is being forced on the run, but this will not preclude it from firing a few shots over its shoulder.

Foreign Minister Holds Talks With Envoy to UK

MB031625 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] In Cape Town, the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, and South Africa's ambassador to Britain, Mr Marais Steyn, discussed the arrest of four South Africans today. The four South Africans were arrested in London last week in connection with an alleged illegal arms deal. Mr Steyn was recalled to South Africa after the four South Africans and three Britons had been arrested. Mr Botha said in Cape Town the conditions around the arrests and other matters regarding Anglo-South African relations had been discussed.

KwaZulu Chief Buthelezi Opens New Assembly Building

MB021712 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] The chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, today officially opened the new building which will house the legislative assembly of the national state. The Zulu king, Goodwill Zwelithini, the commissioner general, Mr P. Hansmeyer, and the administrator of Natal, Mr Stoffel Botha, were among the dignitaries who were present at the opening.

In his speech, Chief Buthelezi said the new building should be seen as a successful attempt by the Zulus towards political solidarity. Chief Buthelezi said the new building should not be seen as a sign that the KwaZulu government was prepared to accept independence. The second session of the fourth parliament will be opened tomorrow by the administrator of Natal, Mr Stoffel Botha.

RSA, U.S. Diplomacy 'Forced' Angola's New Initiatives

MB031448 Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 21 Mar 84 p 14

[Editorial: "Exploit the Situation"]

[Text] The likely withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola will undoubtedly give new impetus to the peace process in southern Africa. It is indeed the main condition which South Africa and the Reagan administration have set for the implementation of Resolution 435 on South-West Africa.

Superficially the joint declaration issued by the Cuban and Angolan heads of state in Havana yesterday on the Cuban withdrawal does not seem complicated. Among other things, South Africa is asked to first stop its military activity in Angola. This has already been done.

The declaration further states that South Africa, America, and their allies should end their support for antirevolutionary movements in Angola. It is clear that this implies South Africa's help for UNITA. Be that as it may, South Africa maintains that the opposing internal parties in Angola should resolve their differences themselves.

The UNITA question can become difficult in any event, not only because there are sharp ideological differences between Dr Savimbi and the MPLA-Labor Government, but because the internal struggle has already developed into a small-scale civil war. But if that hurdle can be overcome, there can be strong hope for a final settlement in the long and protracted South-West African problem.

What all this has contributed to the new developments is quite difficult to discern. It can be accepted that American diplomacy and South African military pressure have forced the Angolan Government to take a new approach. In other respects it can be attributed to the aftereffects of the process of sustained economic deterioration and poverty in Angola, because Russia does not have the finances to support the Marxist government there. This has also been the case in Mozambique.

The recent course of events have indeed been a serious setback for Russian plans to establish itself in South Africa. But the West should not let the chances now appearing slip away.

Koeberg Nuclear Plant Begins Supplying Power

MB041436 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] South Africa's first nuclear power station, Koeberg, near Cape Town, began feeding electricity into the national Electricity Supply Corporation grid at 1314 this afternoon. The power was fed in with the synchronization of Koeberg's first turbine generator with the national grid. The initial fuel loading took place 4 months ago, and 3 weeks ago the reactor was brought into operation.

MPLA, UNITA Settlement of Differences Urged

MB301549 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In 1975, the Soviet Union turned an internal power struggle in Angola into a superpower issue when it dispatched over 20,000 Cuban troops to that country. It also precipitated inside Angola economic destruction on a scale unmatched even in Africa, and for southern Africa a running sore that today still bedevils efforts to reach political settlements and build a stable order.

As President Reagan remarked at one time: The withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola is essential to achieving Namibian independence as well as creating long-range prospects for peace in the region. Those prospects have improved considerably as a result of current peace initiatives in southern Africa. As a result, however, they have focused increasingly on the remaining obstacle, the Cuban military presence in Angola, and linked to that the civil war being conducted by the UNITA movement.

UNITA is an issue by virtue of the fact now being stated more openly in Western and southern African diplomatic circles that the Cubans were sent to Angola for the very purpose of installing the MPLA in power against its chief rival, UNITA, and that remains their chief purpose.

Late last year, Britain's minister of state responsible for Africa at the foreign office, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, paid a visit to Angola to assess the level of the civil war. He came to the conclusion that it was more than a guerrilla action. It had become a substantial civil war.

That has far-reaching implications for the Angolan Government, for the efforts to have the Cubans removed, for an independent settlement for South-West Africa, and for stability in southern Africa.

Speaking for the American Administration, Mr Herman Nickel, ambassador to South Africa, spelled it out recently: There has to be a political resolution to the conflict, he said. We think that both sides in that Angolan conflict realize that neither can dictate the outcome by military means alone.

A resolution of some kind seems to be essential if the Cubans are to be withdrawn, and UNITA's attitudes and actions of the past 6 months all confirm the views of Western observers that it is too powerful to be defeated, that it will not stop fighting unless the MPLA agrees to negotiations, and that a political settlement is therefore the only solution.

Estimates of UNITA's fighting force vary, but they are put at somewhere in the region of 35,000 men, and Dr Jonas Savimbi is said to be recruiting at a rate of 2,000 a year. Already UNITA is capable of a semiconventional war, taking it out of the category of a guerrilla group. And even 30,000 Cuban troops in Angola have been incapable of halting its steady advance across the country. In at least a third of Angola, Dr Savimbi's movement have no opposition, and according to Western journalists it is operating with relative freedom in another third of the country.

UNITA insists that it is a lawful political movement driven underground by alien forces. It points out that at independence, Portugal officially transferred power to three political parties, of which it was one. Hence, Dr Savimbi's statement that the offensive will be unrelenting and will cease only when the MPLA-Labor government enters into direct negotiations with UNITA leading to a government of national unity.

South Africa's role in that issue is largely irrelevant, notwithstanding accusations that it has been aiding UNITA. According to the evidence of numerous Western correspondents, UNITA is receiving adequate assistance from a variety of countries. It also has underground a flourishing foreign trade in diamonds, ivory, and timber. UNITA is not about to be destroyed. If the destabilizing activities of the Cubans are to be brought to an end, a political settlement seems unavoidable.

Split Develops in Ranks of Afrikaner Broederbond

MB310930 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 26 Mar 84 pp 1,2

[By Jaap Theron]

[Text] The long-envisaged split in the ranks of the Afrikaner Broederbond (AB), between the separatists and the integrationists, formally started last week with the resignation from the AB by the separatists so-called Committee of Ten.

The Committee of Ten, led by Mr Kallie van der Merwe, resigned after a failed attempt by them to get the AB executive to call a special head committee meeting to discuss the AB executive's official backing of the new constitution and also to evaluate the new constitution.

After failing to call a special head committee meeting together the Group of Ten not only resigned from the AB, but drafted a letter, which was freely distributed among the AB's 14,500 members countrywide, in which they, among others, invited AB members to join Professor Carel Boshoff's new Afrikanervolkswag (AVW), which is to be formally established at a congress on May 4 and 5 in the Skilpad Hall, Pretoria.

An executive member of the AB yesterday told *THE CITIZEN* it was unlikely that more than 2,000 of the AB's members would resign to join the Afrikanervolkswag.

But one of the Committee of Ten — who confirmed yesterday that they referred to themselves as the "Committee of Ten" — said as many as 50 percent, or about 700 members of the AB, could eventually resign...especially when they experienced in practice that the AB was backing integration. However, he said many AB members, who were against integration, would remain in the AB for a long time for various reasons.

The split now looming in AB ranks in fact started in 1976 when the AB's head committee decided that a "master plan" should be worked out according to which the self-dispensation of the Whites would be safeguarded, while at the same time the constitutional position of the Coloureds and Indians would have been evaluated. Soon after this investigation was launched into the constitutional future of the Whites, Coloureds and Indians, the breach between the separatists and integrationists became wider than ever before. The investigation by the AB executive eventually led to its decision to give its formal backing to the Government's new constitutional plans.

The separatists felt that this decision by the AB executive had been taken without members having the opportunity to study the findings of the "master plan" committee. The result was that they appointed their own Committee of Ten in August last year.

This committee has since then come to the conclusion that "the AB executive's official banking [as published] of the new constitution — on the basis that it is in line with general AB-member-opinion — is in fact a one-sided interpretation by the AB executive."

The Committee of Ten then approached the AB executive and requested them to hold a special head-committee meeting at which the AB executive's "one-sided standpoint on the constitution as well as the new constitution as such, would be discussed."

A member of the Committee of Ten yesterday said it was clear AB members who were against the integration of Whites, Coloreds and Indians were no longer welcome in the AB. He stressed that the Committee of Ten did not urge AB members to resign from the AB, but only invited them to joint the AVW.

SWAZILAND

Arms Cache Discovered at Border Near Lomahasha

MB031435 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 3 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] A cache of arms has been discovered in a forest near the Lomahasha border fence, police confirmed yesterday. It could not be established yesterday whether the arms were of East or Western origin as police experts had still to examine them. The arms, contained in a big sack, were found by a labourer at the Lomahasha border gate.

A source told *THE TIMES* that the sack was found hidden in tall shrubbery not far from the houses of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Veterinary Department.

"It appeared to have been dumped there by someone in a hurry. It was just lying on the ground without some evident effort to try and hide it," he said. "When the man saw it he tried to pick it up but it was too heavy for him. Looking inside he found an assortment of automatic guns of various sizes, explosives and ammunition. He probably became frightened, for he called other people to look at what he had found. The police were only called later when people realised what it was."

Police sources in the area confirmed the incident. They said the matter had since been reported to their headquarters. Police commissioner, Mr Titus Msibi, said a report had been made to him of the discovery of some as yet unidentified equipment. "I still have to be shown these things. I don't know exactly what they are," he said.

Mr Msibi said he had been told that the discovery was made by children and reported to the elders who then passed the information to the police.

ZAMBIA

Entry of Refugees, Shooting Incident Reported

MB040709 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Security forces in the Mwinilunga District are looking for an armed Angolan refugee who on Sunday and Monday night fired several shots in the air to scare people in Chief (Nyatasiya's) area. The incident was confirmed by Northwestern Province member of the Central Committee, Maxwell Beyani, in Solwezi yesterday. Clarifying reports on the alleged attack on the chief's palace by foreign armed forces, Mr Beyani said it was only one armed refugee who caused alarm, but the situation had returned to normal.

Meanwhile, 78 Angolan and Zairian refugees have entered Zambia from the Mwinilunga District and are being kept at Mwinilunga-(?Boma). Of this number 53 are from Angola and the other 24 [as heard] from Zaire. According to immigration officials, more than 500 refugees from Angola are trekking towards the Zambian border.

Youth Minister Extols Virtues of 'Cuban Experience'

MB301001 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] Minister for Youth and Sport Ben Kakoma has said Zambian youth have a lot to learn from their Cuban counterparts in various fields, like politics, sports, and community organization. Mr Kakoma cited the problem of school-leaver unemployment as one area in which Zambian youth could benefit from the

Cuban experience about how best to be organized in order for them to be productive.

The minister was speaking when a 2-man youth delegation called on him at his office. He said it was the party's firm policy to promote contacts between Zambian youth and those from progressive countries like Cuba. Speaking during the same occasion, the Cuban ambassador to Zambia, Heriberto Feraudy, said the time has now come for the cooperation between Zambia and Cuba to move into the practical sector.

ZIMBABWE

Ja Toivo Arrives in Harare, Will Meet With Mugabe

MB040621 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Text] A founder member of SWAPO of Namibia, Comrade Herman Toivo ja Toivo, who was released recently by the South-African authorities, has arrived in Harare from Luanda. He is accompanied by the SWAPO administrative secretary, Comrade (Moises Jaros).

Comrade Toivo ja Toivo is scheduled to meet the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, before going to Namibia on Thursday. The SWAPO official, who served 15 years in a Robben Island prison, has visited Tanzania, Zambia, and Algiers.

Freight Train Derailed on Harare-Bulawayo Line

MB310825 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Mar 84

[Text] A goods train was derailed between Chegutu and Norton yesterday afternoon, blocking the main railway line between Harare and Bulawayo. A spokesman for the National Railways of Zimbabwe [NRZ] said no one was injured in the derailment. The NRZ is to conduct an inquiry into the cause of the accident. It is anticipated that the line will be cleared by 1200 today. As a result of the accident, there were no passenger trains leaving Harare for Bulawayo last night. However, the passenger train which left Bulawayo last night got as far as Chegutu.

Msipa Reports Talks Held on Limpopo River Dam

MB301246 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 30 Mar 84

[Text] South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique held talks last week about building a dam on the Limpopo River, according to a Zimbabwean government minister. Water Resources Minister Cephas Msipa said civil servants from the four countries have considered reviving a project for a water storage dam on the Limpopo between South Africa and Zimbabwe, just downstream from where the river leaves Botswana.

When the project was first put forward more than a decade ago the cost was estimated at about $10 million, but it would now probably cost almost three times as much to build it. The dam would allow water to be conserved during the rainy season, thus preventing the river running dry. AFP quoted government sources in Harare as saying the lessening of tensions in the region had helped pave the way for the Limpopo talks.

Trial Seen Proving Radio Truth 'Frightens Leadership'

MB031337 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English 0430 GMT 3 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] We see that the trial of Mr Derrick John Rhodes in Bulawayo has reached its inevitable conclusion. Mr Rhodes, you will recall, was tried for recording Radio Truth on tape and then replaying extracts of the tape for friends at work. He was given a suspended sentence of 4 months instead of the jail term we all expected because it was found that he had been assaulted by the police. And for what, might we ask? There is not a shadow of a doubt that Mr Rhodes is far from being the only man in Zimbabwe to listen to Radio Truth. In fact, he is far from being the only man to record our programs on something approaching a daily basis, and even the CIO [Central Intelligence Organisation] monitors us. Nathan Shamuyarira listens to us regularly, and certain members of the cabinet receive a daily transcript of Radio Truth.

How long is it to be before we are not allowed to record or even listen to the BBC or the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] or the Voice of America? It is more than a little obvious that Radio Truth is hurting where it hurts most, in the pride and the egos of our masters. The day we realized the depth and breadth of the level of corruption now evidencing itself daily in Harare, we decided to expose it for all it was worth. We knew that if it took 5 years we would eventually arrive at a time where the entire nation listened to us, and that includes most of ZANU-PF. We knew, and we know, that other countries' agencies monitor us, and that is why we often speak directly to the U.S. leaders or to Mrs Thatcher. We know the lies being spread by the regime's dustbin liners and the broadcasting media, and we know just how sadly lacking is the truth in Zimbabwe, hence our name, Radio Truth.

We also know just how frightened our leadership is becoming by our constant exposure of corruption on high, of nepotism, and of brutality. Mr Rhodes' arrest and trial are evidence of this fear we have managed to instill into the regime with all its power and all its arrogance. Mugabe and the gang well know they sit on shaky thrones, and our constant nudges assist in making their perches even more unsafe. We are sorry for Mr Rhodes, but his mistake was in recording our programs for others to hear. By all means listen to us, talk about us to trusted friends, keep us informed as you have been doing, but do not record us on tape. That is the particular and special privilege of our new super elite in Harare, but not a privilege extended to you, the masses of Zimbabwe.

Finally, if you think about it, Mr Rhodes' sentence is an indication of the damage we are doing to the regime. If we were not truthful, if we were simply a propaganda outlet as the ZBC [Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation] is, we could be laughed off or shrugged off. But we have frightened the leadership almost beyond belief, and punishments such as that extended to Mr Rhodes are evidence of ZANU-PF reaction. We hurt because we know where to hurt, and the regime is frenziedly trying to stamp us out. Like in occupied France, they will learn that the one thing that never dies is an idea, and Radio Truth is here to provide the idea. They can silence the people of Zimbabwe, [but not] Radio Truth.